Catalogue 11-001-XIE (Français 11-001-XIF) ISSN 1205-9137

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, February 22, 2008
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

Retail trade, December 2007 — 2

Retail sales rose by 0.6% in December to an estimated $35.1 billion on the strength of sales by new car dealers. This was the third increase in retail sales in four months and helped make 2007 the year with the second highest retail growth rate since 2002.

Study: Hourly earnings, 1997 to 2007 — 7

Study: RRSP investments, 2005 — 7

Public sector employment, fourth quarter 2007 — 8

Natural gas sales, December 2007 — 9

Shipments of solid fuel burning heating products, fourth quarter 2007 — 10

New products — 11

Release dates: February 25 to 29, 2008 — 12

Releases

Retail trade

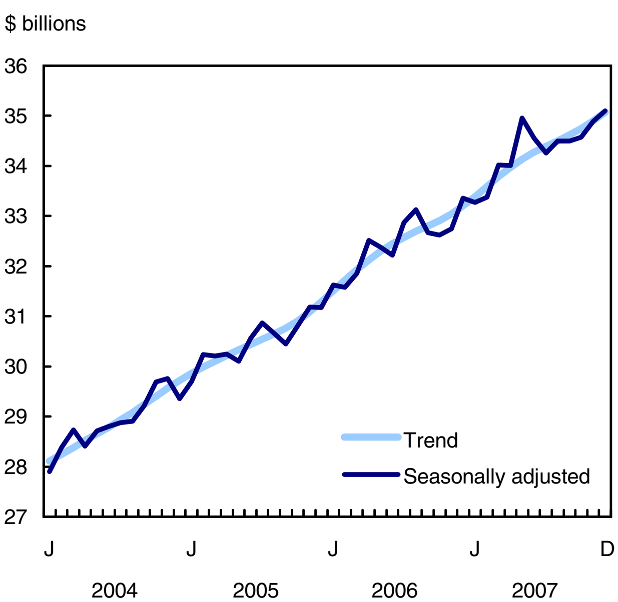
December 2007

Retail sales rose by 0.6% in December to an estimated $35.1 billion on the strength of sales by new car dealers. This was the third increase in retail sales in four months and helped make 2007 the year with the second highest retail growth rate since 2002.

In 2007, retailers sold an estimated $412.2 billion worth of goods and services, up 5.8% over 2006.

Sales in the automotive sector (+3.2%) accounted for most of the December increase in sales. Excluding two of this sector's components, new car dealers and used and recreational motor vehicles and parts dealers, retail sales fell 0.4% in December, the first decrease in five months.

Retail sales increase in December



Holiday sales started hot off the mark in November, but lost steam rather quickly, leaving traditional Christmas retailers with rather disappointing sales in December, including clothing and accessory stores (-2.7%), miscellaneous retailers (-1.2%), furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores (-1.1%) and food and beverage stores (-0.8%). Building and outdoor home supplies stores also posted a dip (-1.2%).

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 2007. The complete revision of seasonally adjusted data for the 2007 calendar year will be released in April 2008. All annual comparisons in this release use the sum of unadjusted monthly estimates.

After November posted the biggest jump in monthly sales since early 2007, general merchandise stores (+0.5%) faced only moderate growth in December. Sales at pharmacies and personal care stores (+0.1%) continued to stagnate as in the previous two months.

When price changes are taken into account, retail sales in constant dollars rose 0.5% in December.

In the fourth quarter of 2007, retailers posted a 1.2% increase in sales, mainly due to a 2.9% hike in sales in the automotive sector. This more than offset the 0.3% decline in the third quarter of 2007, which followed increases above 2.0% in the first two quarters of 2007.

Trucks drive new car sales

The increase in December sales by new car dealers (+4.4%) was primarily attributable to truck sales (+7.7%), according to the New Motor Vehicle Sales Survey. In this survey, trucks include mini-vans, sport utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses. This recovery in new car dealer sales completely wiped out November's slump, the fourth decline in the previous six months. Additional rebates as a result of new Canadian prices, incentives to draw customers into the showrooms before the one percentage point drop in the goods and services tax effective January 1, 2008, and better financing appear to have paid off.

Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers' sales rose for the second month in a row (+3.0%) after declining for five months. This group includes snowmobile retailers and tire shops.

The increase in gasoline station sales (+1.5%) was mainly attributable to the 1.7% rise in the price of gasoline, according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Sales in gasoline stations have generally been on the rise since the decline observed in September 2006.

Clothing store sales drop

Sales in clothing stores (-3.2%) fell sharply, accounting for most of the decrease in the clothing and accessories sector in December. Sales in this sector do not appear to have benefitted from declines in the price of clothing over the previous months.

Building and outdoor home supplies stores sales (-1.2%) fell for the third consecutive month in December. Specialized building materials and garden stores (-4.1%) were the main factors, posting their second steepest monthly drop in sales in 2007. Home centres and hardware stores (-0.5%) posted their third consecutive decrease in sales. After a virtually uninterrupted rise over the past few years, home centre and hardware store sales have been decreasing since the middle of 2007.

In the furniture, home furnishings and electronics sector, sales fell by 1.1% in December, after a slight recovery in November. This decline was mainly due to lower sales in furniture stores (-3.6%). The 2.6% rise in sales in home furnishings stores almost cancelled out the decrease in sales in computer and software stores (-4.8%) and home electronics and appliance stores (-0.3%).

Sales by food and beverage stores (-0.8%) also lost ground in December. Sales in beer, wine and liquor stores fell 2.1% after a strong showing in November. Supermarkets (-0.5%) saw their sales fall slightly after four consecutive months of increases.

Saskatchewan retailers remain on the upswing in December

Six provinces posted retail sales growth in December. The strongest increases were observed in Saskatchewan (+2.1%) and in Newfoundland and Labrador (+2.1%). For Saskatchewan, this was the third monthly increase of over 2.0% in four months. For Newfoundland and Labrador, this is the second biggest increase in the past four months.

Sales in Manitoba continued to climb (+1.1%), with the fourth consecutive monthly increase of 1.0% or more. British Columbia overcame the stagnation observed over the past six months, showing a 1.1% rise in sales as well.

Sales in Ontario (+1.1%) were up for the third time in four months. Sales in Quebec lost some ground, falling 0.3% in December after rising in the previous two months.

Annual 2007: Home furnishings stores show top growth

Of the 18 trade groups, 3 posted double-digit growth rates in 2007. Sales by home furnishings stores (including floor covering and window treatment stores) rose 12.2% to $6.0 billion in 2007. Sales by these stores represented 1.5% of total retail sales in Canada.

Sales by gasoline stations, which are closely tied to changes in the price of gasoline, reached $46.1 billion in 2007, an increase of 10.8%. This was higher than the 8.5% posted in 2006 but still below the large hikes observed in 2004 (+15.0%) and 2005 (+11.4%), when the price of gasoline skyrocketed. The CPI for gasoline rose by 4.5% in 2007, the weakest increase since 2002.

Sales by home electronics and appliance stores rose 10.5% to $12.3 billion in 2007. Sales by this trade group have been on the upswing for several years.

Sales at pharmacies and personal care stores (+8.8%) were in third place in terms of their contribution to the increase in retail sales in 2007, following new car dealers and gasoline stations. Sales had surged in 2006, reaching a record high of 10.3%. Prior to 2006, annual growth rates had been averaging just over 5% since 2000.

Lower-than-average growth for the three largest retail trade groups

As in previous years, new car dealers were the main contributors to total retail trade activity in 2007, representing an 18.7% share of sales. Sales by new car dealers reached $77.2 billion, an increase of 3.4%. Sales growth at these dealers has slowed over the past two years, from 5.0% in 2005 to 4.4% in 2006.

Supermarkets, the second largest retail sales trade group, continued to grow at a moderate rate, with $65.3 billion in sales in 2007, an increase of 2.8%. Two of the most influential factors affecting sales in these stores are shifts in population and changes in price. Canada’s population increased by 1.0% in 2007, according to *Quarterly Demographic Estimates*, Vol. 21, no. 3 (91–002–XWE, free). In that same year, the CPI indicated a 2.7% rise in the price of food sold in stores.

General merchandise stores saw their sales rise 4.5% to $48.6 billion in 2007. This third largest retail sales trade group includes department stores, warehouse clubs, superstores and home and auto supplies stores. This is the third consecutive year that sales growth for these types of stores fell short of the overall growth rate for retail trade.

Sales growth in Canada’s three largest cities below national average

Canada’s three largest cities saw their 2007 sales rise less than the national average. Among the Toronto, Montréal and Vancouver census metropolitan areas, retail sales in Toronto (+5.4%) recorded the strongest annual growth, followed closely by Vancouver (+5.3%). Montréal showed a 3.2% increase in sales.

Among provinces, Saskatchewan dominated retail sales in 2007. The province’s retailers saw their sales surge by 12.9%, which was almost twice as high as the previous year's growth and the highest rate for the province since the start of the series in 1991.

In contrast to 2006, when retail sales in Alberta grew far more than in the other provinces, this province ranked fourth in 2007 with a 9.0% increase, right behind the record growth rates of 9.4% in both Manitoba and Newfoundland and Labrador.

Related indicators for January

Employment rose by an estimated 46,000 in January, which boosted the employment rate to an unprecedented high (63.8%), according to the Labour Force Survey. This upward movement brought the unemployment rate back to 5.8%, the same 33-year low it had reached in October 2007.

Preliminary data on automotive industry sales indicate that the number of new cars sold in January increased significantly, mainly as a result of passenger car sales.

According to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, the seasonally adjusted annual rate of housing starts in Canada rose a strong 20.6%, from 184,700 in December 2007 to 222,700 in January 2008.

Available on CANSIM: tables 080-0014 to 080-0017.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2406 and 2408.

The December 2007 issue of *Retail Trade* (63-005-XWE, free) will be available shortly.

Data on retail trade for January will be released on March 25.

For more information or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; *retailinfo@statcan.ca*). For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Claude Bilodeau (613-951-1816), Distributive Trades Division.

□

Retail sales

	December 2006	September 2007r	October 2007r	November 2007r	December 2007p	November to December 2007	December 2006 to December 2007
	Seasonally adjusted						
	$ millions					% change	
Automotive	**11,540**	**11,750**	**11,883**	**12,005**	**12,385**	**3.2**	**7.3**
New car dealers	6,540	6,417	6,473	6,242	6,514	4.4	-0.4
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,481	1,562	1,560	1,570	1,617	3.0	9.1
Gasoline stations	3,518	3,771	3,849	4,193	4,254	1.5	20.9
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores	**2,359**	**2,498**	**2,502**	**2,510**	**2,484**	**-1.1**	**5.3**
Furniture stores	808	845	841	851	821	-3.6	1.5
Home furnishings stores	467	512	508	489	502	2.6	7.4
Computer and software stores	126	113	115	117	111	-4.8	-12.0
Home electronics and appliance stores	957	1,028	1,038	1,053	1,050	-0.3	9.7
Building and outdoor home supplies stores	**2,144**	**2,253**	**2,247**	**2,230**	**2,204**	**-1.2**	**2.8**
Home centres and hardware stores	1,735	1,820	1,806	1,801	1,792	-0.5	3.3
Specialized building materials and garden stores	409	433	441	430	412	-4.1	0.6
Food and beverage stores	**7,430**	**7,683**	**7,678**	**7,759**	**7,697**	**-0.8**	**3.6**
Supermarkets	5,362	5,474	5,484	5,525	5,499	-0.5	2.5
Convenience and specialty food stores	794	856	851	863	857	-0.8	7.9
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,273	1,354	1,344	1,370	1,342	-2.1	5.4
Pharmacies and personal care stores	**2,273**	**2,403**	**2,401**	**2,400**	**2,403**	**0.1**	**5.7**
Clothing and accessories stores	**1,958**	**2,005**	**1,990**	**2,018**	**1,964**	**-2.7**	**0.3**
Clothing stores	1,486	1,536	1,523	1,543	1,494	-3.2	0.5
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	472	469	467	475	470	-0.9	-0.4
General merchandise stores	**3,939**	**4,103**	**4,045**	**4,139**	**4,161**	**0.5**	**5.6**
Miscellaneous retailers	**1,717**	**1,806**	**1,826**	**1,826**	**1,804**	**-1.2**	**5.1**
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	854	900	895	893	888	-0.6	3.9
Miscellaneous store retailers	863	906	931	933	916	-1.8	6.2
Total retail sales	**33,359**	**34,501**	**34,570**	**34,887**	**35,100**	**0.6**	**5.2**
Total excluding new car dealers, used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	**25,338**	**26,522**	**26,537**	**27,075**	**26,969**	**-0.4**	**6.4**
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland and Labrador	534	553	562	560	571	2.1	7.0
Prince Edward Island	128	135	137	134	134	-0.3	4.7
Nova Scotia	956	981	992	985	978	-0.7	2.3
New Brunswick	768	789	800	801	791	-1.2	3.1
Quebec	7,367	7,499	7,541	7,597	7,573	-0.3	2.8
Ontario	12,050	12,286	12,241	12,399	12,532	1.1	4.0
Manitoba	1,116	1,199	1,211	1,223	1,236	1.1	10.7
Saskatchewan	998	1,118	1,113	1,141	1,165	2.1	16.8
Alberta	4,845	5,082	5,099	5,155	5,174	0.4	6.8
British Columbia	4,483	4,736	4,750	4,765	4,818	1.1	7.5
Yukon	40	43	43	43	43	0.9	9.4
Northwest Territories	53	57	58	61	60	-1.8	14.3
Nunavut	22	24	23	24	24	1.1	11.2

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
Note: *Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.*

Retail sales

	December 2006	November 2007[r]	December 2007[p]	December 2006 to December 2007
	Unadjusted			
	$ millions			% change
Automotive	**9,873**	**11,233**	**10,605**	**7.4**
New car dealers	5,451	5,787	5,391	-1.1
Used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	1,106	1,401	1,199	8.3
Gasoline stations	3,315	4,045	4,015	21.1
Furniture, home furnishings and electronics stores	**3,544**	**2,721**	**3,704**	**4.5**
Furniture stores	934	888	937	0.3
Home furnishings stores	617	573	662	7.2
Computer and software stores	155	123	138	-11.0
Home electronics and appliance stores	1,837	1,137	1,967	7.1
Building and outdoor home supplies stores	**1,731**	**2,205**	**1,760**	**1.7**
Home centres and hardware stores	1,417	1,791	1,446	2.0
Specialized building materials and garden stores	314	414	314	0.1
Food and beverage stores	**8,844**	**7,673**	**8,809**	**-0.4**
Supermarkets	6,044	5,496	5,974	-1.2
Convenience and specialty food stores	872	811	918	5.3
Beer, wine and liquor stores	1,928	1,366	1,917	-0.6
Pharmacies and personal care stores	**2,673**	**2,440**	**2,785**	**4.2**
Clothing and accessories stores	**3,344**	**2,267**	**3,304**	**-1.2**
Clothing stores	2,438	1,758	2,427	-0.4
Shoe, clothing accessories and jewellery stores	906	509	877	-3.3
General merchandise stores	**5,981**	**4,634**	**6,275**	**4.9**
Miscellaneous retailers	**2,558**	**1,870**	**2,668**	**4.3**
Sporting goods, hobby, music and book stores	1,505	952	1,562	3.8
Miscellaneous store retailers	1,052	918	1,106	5.1
Total retail sales	**38,547**	**35,043**	**39,909**	**3.5**
Total excluding new car dealers, used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers	**31,990**	**27,855**	**33,319**	**4.2**
Provinces and territories				
Newfoundland and Labrador	633	598	669	5.6
Prince Edward Island	146	132	149	2.0
Nova Scotia	1,140	1,003	1,140	0.0
New Brunswick	881	817	888	0.8
Quebec	8,040	7,585	8,082	0.5
Ontario	14,346	12,655	14,797	3.1
Manitoba	1,277	1,235	1,390	8.8
Saskatchewan	1,133	1,130	1,299	14.7
Alberta	5,541	5,112	5,799	4.7
British Columbia	5,282	4,657	5,555	5.2
Yukon	43	40	47	9.2
Northwest Territories	59	56	67	13.6
Nunavut	25	23	28	8.3

r *revised*
p *preliminary*
Note: *Figures may not add up to total due to rounding.*

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Study: Hourly earnings

1997 to 2007

Hourly earnings of managers, as well as those of professionals employed in business, finance and computer and information systems, increased faster than those of any other occupational groups during the past 10 years, according to a new study.

On the other hand, blue-collar workers in manufacturing, clerical employees and salespeople in retail trade saw virtually no growth in earnings.

The study, published today in *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, found that between 1997/1998 and 2006/2007, the average hourly earnings of managers employed in the private sector grew a solid 20%. This was four times the average rate of 5% among other private-sector employees.

Hourly earnings of specialist managers — those involved in fields such as engineering, science, information systems, sales and marketing — increased by 23% on average. Those of other managers grew 18%, the same rate for professionals employed in business and finance.

Computer and information system professionals also enjoyed substantial wage growth, with a 14% increase in hourly earnings.

In contrast, clerical workers and manufacturing employees involved in blue-collar work or supervision tasks saw virtually no wage growth. Nor did cashiers, retail salespersons and sales clerks. Wages stagnated for these workers, who represented 26% of private-sector employment in 2006/2007.

Overall, average hourly earnings of private-sector employees increased 7% during that period.

The faster wage growth of managers was observed in all major industrial groups and in firms of all sizes, as well as in all regions of Canada.

The proportion of workers with a university degree grew more among managers than among other employees. However, this more rapid increase in educational attainment accounted for only 20% of the difference in growth rates of average earnings between managers and other employees.

Furthermore, 75% of the difference in growth rates remained after accounting for differences in industry of employment and region.

The more rapid wage growth experienced by managers over the last decade was a widespread phenomenon in the Canadian economy.

It had a substantial impact on the upper end of earnings distribution.

Between 1997/1998 and 2006/2007, hourly earnings grew 12% among the top 5% of private-sector employees, compared with 4% growth for their counterparts in the middle of the distribution. The study showed that the more rapid earnings growth of managers accounted for between one-third and 60% of this eight-percentage-point difference.

The article "Earnings in the last decade" is in the February 2008 online edition of Perspectives on Labour and Income, Vol. 9, no. 2 (75-001-XWE, free), now available from the Publications module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this article, contact René Morissette (613-951-3608; *rene.morissette@statcan.ca*), Business and Labour Market Analysis Division. ■

Study: RRSP investments

2005

Overall, 6 out of every 10 families in Canada held savings in registered retirement savings plans (RRSPs) in 2005, and these plans had a median value of $25,000, according to a new study.

The study, published today in the February 2008 issue of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, showed that, as expected, the prevalence of families with RRSPs and the value of the plans both increased with age.

Among families in which the major income recipient was aged 25 to 44, more than one-half (56%) held RRSPs, compared with 68% for those in which the major income recipient was aged 45 to 54.

Among families in which the major income recipient was aged 65 to 69 — older than the traditional retirement age — the rate dropped to 47%. This is not surprising, because older people in these families may have already retired. Consequently, some may have converted their RRSPs to registered retirement income funds. Nearly 90% of families with after-tax incomes of $85,000 or more held RRSPs. This was more than double the proportion of only 35% among families with incomes of less than $36,500.

The study was based on data from the 2005 Survey of Financial Security, which measured the stock of RRSP assets accumulated over time as opposed to purchases of RRSPs in a specific year.

Younger families, in which the major income recipient was aged 25 to 44, have had less time to accumulate funds. Consequently, they reported a median value for their RRSPs of only $15,000. (Median is the point at which half is above and half below.)

Those in the age groups 45 to 54 and 55 to 64 have potentially had more years of employment to accumulate funds and, as a result, had saved substantially more. The median for the group aged 45 to 54 was $40,000, and for those aged 55 to 64, it was $55,000.

Among families in which the major income recipient was a senior aged 65 or older, the median value was lower, only $37,000.

On a broader scale, almost three-quarters of families had either RRSPs or employer-sponsored pension plans (EPPs), or both. The median value of their savings was $65,800.

At each age level, median EPP holdings were substantially higher than RRSPs. For families in which the major income recipient was aged 55 to 64, fully 8 in 10 held either RRSPs or EPPs. Their median value was substantially higher at $244,800.

Investors can hold a variety of investments in their RRSPs. The most common holding was mutual funds, held by 38% of families, likely because of the broad range of products available.

About 20% of families held guaranteed investment certificates, popular because of their predictability. Only 7% of families held stocks.

The majority (59%) of families held their entire RRSP portfolios in variable-value assets (mutual funds, stocks or bonds). Only one-quarter held assets exclusively with predictable values-guaranteed investment certificates, Canada Savings Bonds or treasury bills.

Among younger families, two-thirds held all of their RRSPs in variable-value assets, compared with close to half for older families.

Among families with after-tax incomes of less than $36,500, 35% held all of their RRSP investments in assets with predictable values. This was substantially higher than for families with higher after-tax incomes ($85,000 or more).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2620.

The article "RRSP investments" is in the February 2008 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, Vol. 9, no. 2 (75-001-XWE, free), now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this article, contact Wendy Pyper (613-951-0381; *wendy.pyper@statcan.ca*), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division. ■

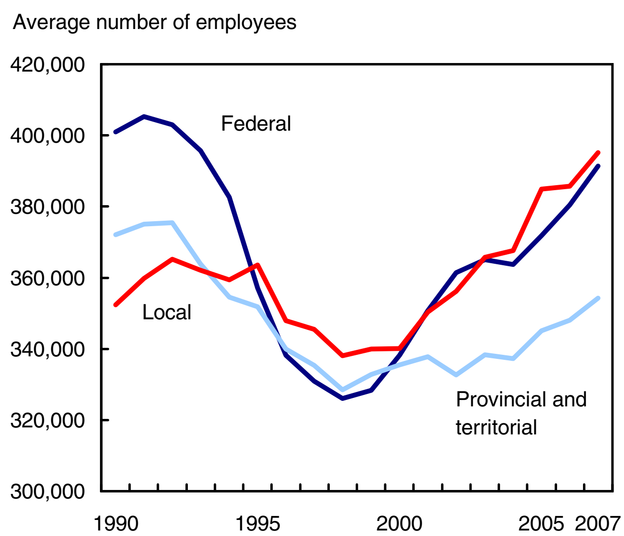
Public sector employment

Fourth quarter 2007 (preliminary)

Public sector employment reached nearly 3.3 million in the fourth quarter of 2007, a gain of 2.5%, or 81,000, from the same quarter in 2006. It has been steadily increasing since 2000 after years of decline throughout the 1990s.

Public sector employment comprises all levels of general government, universities, colleges, school boards, health and social service institutions and government business enterprises.

General government employment, fourth quarter



The fourth-quarter increase was spread among all government sectors. The major contributors were educational institutions, with an increase of 29,000 employees, or 2.8%, over the fourth quarter of 2006. This growth was mainly concentrated in Ontario, British Columbia and Alberta.

General government employment amounted to just over 1.1 million, a gain of 2.4%, or 27,000. All three levels of general government contributed to this increase. Since 2000, however, federal and local government employment growth has outpaced that of the provincial and territorial governments.

Strong growth in the provincial administrations of Alberta and British Columbia was partly offset by a decrease in Quebec and New Brunswick.

Employment in health and social service institutions increased by 25,000, or 3.2%. Alberta accounted for over one-quarter of this growth.

Total public sector wages and salaries in the fourth quarter of 2007 were 3.3% higher than they were a year earlier.

Note: The public sector includes all economic entities controlled by government. It is comprised of four major components: federal government (ministries, departments, agencies and non-autonomous funds, and autonomous funds and organizations); provincial and territorial government (ministries, departments, agencies and non-autonomous funds, autonomous funds and organizations, universities and colleges, and health and social service institutions); local government (municipalities and non-autonomous funds, autonomous funds and organizations, and school boards); and government business enterprises (at the federal, provincial/territorial and local levels).

Available on CANSIM: tables 183-0002 and 183-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1713.

For a more detailed description of how public sector employment is defined and reconciled with other information sources, please refer to the document entitled *Reconciliation of Public Sector Employment Estimates from Multiple Information Sources* by clicking on survey number 1713.

A data table on public sector employment is also available in the *Summary Tables* module of our website.

For more information or to order data, contact Client Services (613-951-0767; *pid-dipinfo@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Alain Baril (613-951-4131; *alain.baril@statcan*.ca), Public Institutions Division.

Public sector employment

	Third quarter 2006	Fourth quarter 2006	Third quarter 2007	Fourth quarter 2007
	thousands			
Public sector	**2,992**	**3,210**	**3,052**	**3,291**
General government	1,148	1,114	1,166	1,141
Federal	386	380	387	391
Provincial and territorial	362	348	369	354
Local	400	386	410	395
Educational institutions	790	1,053	806	1,082
Universities and colleges[1]	307	361	319	375
School boards	482	691	487	707
Health and social service institutions	789	784	814	809
Government business enterprises	265	260	265	260

1. *Includes vocational and trade institutions.*
Note: *Numbers may not add up due to rounding.*

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Natural gas sales
December 2007 (preliminary)

With colder-than-normal temperatures across the country, natural gas sales showed large increases in all sectors in December.

Sales to the residential sector jumped 22.6%, followed by a gain of 19.1% in the commercial sector. The industrial sector (including direct sales) showed an increase in sales of 14.0%.

Natural gas sales totalled 8 753 million cubic metres, up 17.5% from December 2006.

Sales at the end of December were up 5.0% from the same 12-month period in 2006, in the wake of across-the-board increases in all sectors. This was the first year since 2003 that the annual volume of sales was up.

The volume of sales for the residential and the commercial sectors posted increases of 7.3% and 5.5%, respectively. As well, sales of natural gas to the industrial sector, including direct sales, were up 3.9% in 2007.

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.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Shipments of solid fuel burning heating products

Fourth quarter 2007

Data on shipments of solid fuel burning heating products are now available for the fourth quarter.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0063.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2189.

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.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

New products

Fruit and Vegetable Production, February 2008, Vol. 76, no. 2
Catalogue number 22-003-XIE
(free).

Perspectives on Labour and Income, February 2008, Vol. 9, no. 2
Catalogue number 75-001-XWE
(free).

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

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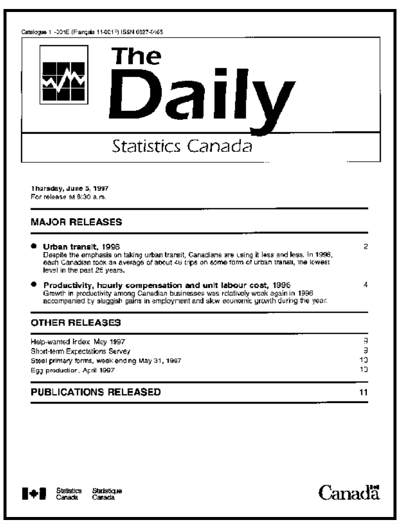
Catalogue 11-001E (Français 11-001F) ISSN 0827-0465

The Daily

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- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4
  Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

Help-wanted Index, May 1997	9
Short-term Expectations Survey	9
Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997	10
Egg production, April 1997	10

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

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Canada

Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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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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26	**Employment Insurance**	December 2007
26	**Payroll employment, earnings and hours**	December 2007
27	**Service industries newsletter**	2005
27	**Private and public investment in Canada**	2006 to 2008
28	**Characteristics of international travellers**	Third quarter 2007
28	**International travel account**	Fourth quarter 2007
29	**Balance of international payments**	Fourth quarter 2007
29	**Industrial product and raw materials price indexes**	January 2008