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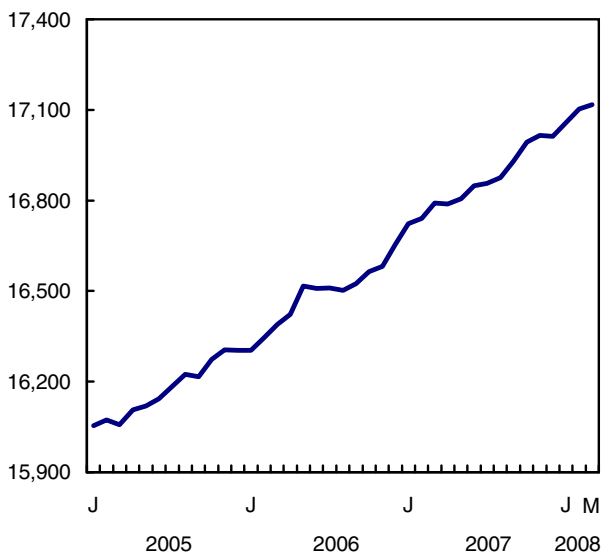
Labour Force Survey

March 2008

Following two months of large gains, employment edged up slightly in March (+15,000). A surge of entrants into the labour market caused the unemployment rate to move up 0.2 percentage points to 6.0%. Canada's participation rate reached a new record high of 68.0% in March.

Employment

thousands



Over the past 12 months, employment grew by an estimated 325,000 (+1.9%).

Part-time employment was up in March (+34,000), the largest increase in part time since November 2006. Over the past 12 months, full-time employment has grown at almost twice the pace (+2.1%) of part-time work (+1.1%).

Private sector employees led overall growth in the first quarter of 2008, following a strong year for the public sector in 2007.

Alberta and British Columbia were the only provinces with notable employment gains in March. These provinces also set new records, as British Columbia's employment rate reached a high of 64.0%, and Alberta's participation rate hit 74.7%, the highest of any province.

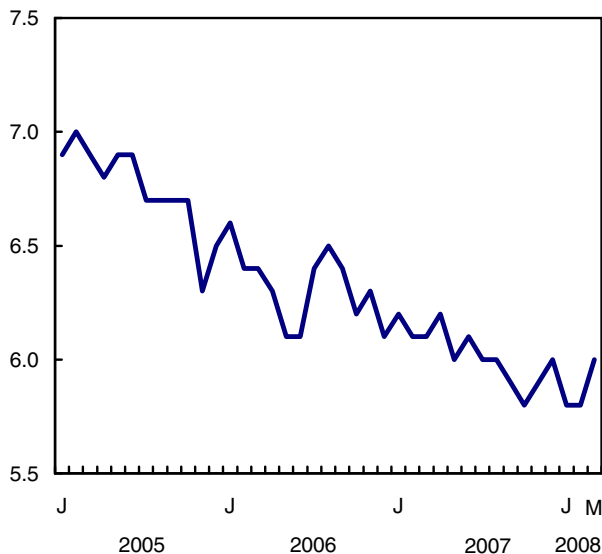
In March, employment gains were posted in transportation and warehousing and natural resources, with losses in information, culture and recreation.

Year-over-year growth in average hourly wages remained high at 4.7% in March, well above the most recent increase of 1.8% in the Consumer Price Index.

There was a decrease in the estimated number of actual hours worked (-0.9%) in March, which can be attributed to a number of factors including inclement weather in Central and Eastern Canada, a larger than usual number of people reporting absence from work due to vacation, as well as a shift from full-time to part-time employment in a number of industries. The estimate of actual hours produces a snapshot of hours worked during the reference week for the survey (March 9 to 15), not the entire month.

Unemployment rate

%



Transportation and warehousing and natural resources increased in March

Employment in the transportation and warehousing industry rose by an estimated 20,000 in March, offset by losses in information, culture and recreation (-24,000). Over the past 12 months, employment in transportation and warehousing has risen 5.1% (+42,000) with gains mostly in Ontario and Quebec.

Employment edged up in natural resources in March (+7,000), after a dip over the previous two months, leaving this industry unchanged from one year ago.

Over the March 2007 to March 2008 period, employment in the goods-producing sector was little changed, as gains in the construction industry were offset by manufacturing losses. At the same time, service sector employment grew by 2.4%, with public administration; professional scientific and technical services; health care and social assistance as well as transportation and warehousing adding the most workers.

Private sector leads quarterly employment growth

Over the first quarter of 2008, employment growth among private sector employees (+1.2%) was stronger than that of the public sector (+0.3%). The growth among private sector employees was driven by gains in professional, scientific and technical services and construction. Self-employment fell (-1.3%) in the first quarter of 2008.

Employment gains in the West

British Columbia led employment gains in March with an estimated increase of 15,000 (+0.6%), pushing the employment rate to a new record high of 64.0%. Employment gains were widespread across several industries. With higher participation, the province's unemployment rate edged up 0.2 percentage points to 4.3% in March. Over the last 12 months, employment in British Columbia was up 55,000 (+2.4%), with half of the gains in construction.

In March, Alberta added 10,000 workers (+0.5%), pushing the province's employment level above the two million mark for the first time. Alberta leads the country's 12 month employment growth (+3.4%), with strength in both the goods (+2.8%) and the service sector (+3.6%). The March unemployment rate of 3.4% remains the lowest in Canada.

Employment paused in Ontario following a strong February

Following a strong February, Ontario's employment was unchanged in March as gains in part-time employment (+23,000) offset losses in full-time work (-25,000). The province's unemployment rate edged up 0.3 percentage points to 6.4% in March, the result of a boost in the labour force. Over the past 12 months, employment has risen by 1.8% (+119,000), driven by gains in educational services; public administration and business, building and other support services.

Employment in Quebec was also little changed in March, while the unemployment rate increased by 0.3 percentage points to 7.3%. Over the last 12 months, employment has risen 1.5% (+58,000) in the province, with the largest gains in construction and professional, scientific and technical services industries.

Strongest growth among older workers

In March, employment among older workers (55 years and older) increased by 24,000, building on the strong gains of the past year. Older workers have shown the fastest employment increase of all age groups over the past 12 months, with an annual growth rate of 7.8%, well above the 0.9% for core-aged (25 to 54 years) workers.

Quarterly update on territories and Aboriginal people living off-reserve in the western provinces

The Labour Force Survey also collects labour market information about the territories, and Aboriginal people living off-reserve in the four western provinces. This information is not seasonally adjusted and is produced monthly in the form of three-month moving averages. Comparisons should only be made on a year-over-year basis.

The territories

The Yukon's strong labour market pushed the employment rate to 71.1% in the first quarter of 2008, up an estimated 3.6 percentage points over the same period last year.

In contrast, the employment rate in the Northwest Territories fell 4.9 percentage points over the last 12 months to 70.1% for the first quarter of 2008.

In the 10 largest communities of Nunavut, the employment rate stood at 62.7% in the first quarter of 2008, little changed from the same period a year ago.

Aboriginal people

The employment rate of Aboriginal people living off-reserve in the four western provinces was 61.2% in the first quarter of 2008, up 1.1 percentage points from a year earlier. Over the same period, the employment rate of the non-Aboriginal population edged up 0.4 percentage points to 66.7%.

Between the first quarters of 2007 and 2008, the employment rate of Aboriginal people living off-reserve in Alberta increased 2.0 percentage points to 67.5%. Similarly, in British Columbia, the employment rate was up 2.9 percentage points to 61.0%. While there was little change in Manitoba (58.6%), Saskatchewan's

employment rate among Aboriginal people living off-reserve fell 2.4 percentage points over this period to 54.4%.

Note: The Labour Force Survey (LFS) estimates are based on a sample, and are therefore subject to sampling variability. Estimates for smaller geographic areas or industries will have more variability. For an explanation of sampling variability of estimates, and how to use standard errors to assess this variability, consult the "Data quality" section of the publication *Labour Force Information* (71-001-XWE, free).

Available on CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0042, 282-0047 to 282-0064 and 282-0069 to 282-0099.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.

A more detailed summary, *Labour Force Information* (71-001-XWE, free) is now available online for the week

ending March 15. From the *Publications* module of our website, under *Free Internet publications*, choose Labour. LAN and bulk prices are available on request. The CD-ROM *Labour Force Historical Review*, 2007 (71F0004XCB, \$209) is also available. See *How to order products*.

Data tables are also now available online. From the *By Subject* module of our website, choose *Labour*.

The next release of the Labour Force Survey will be on May 9.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; labour@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750; vincent.ferrao@statcan.ca), Jane Lin (613-951-9691; jane.lin@statcan.ca) or Sarah Harrower (613-951-6576; sarah.harrower@statcan.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

□

Labour force characteristics by age and sex

	February 2008	March 2008	February to March 2008	March 2007 to March 2008	February to March 2008	March 2007 to March 2008
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Both sexes 15+						
Population	26,774.8	26,803.4	28.6	361.9	0.1	1.4
Labour force	18,158.9	18,216.0	57.1	326.9	0.3	1.8
Employment	17,102.2	17,116.8	14.6	325.0	0.1	1.9
Full-time	14,028.4	14,008.8	-19.6	289.9	-0.1	2.1
Part-time	3,073.8	3,108.0	34.2	35.1	1.1	1.1
Unemployment	1,056.6	1,099.2	42.6	2.0	4.0	0.2
Participation rate	67.8	68.0	0.2	0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	5.8	6.0	0.2	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	63.9	63.9	0.0	0.4	...	...
Part-time rate	18.0	18.2	0.2	-0.1	...	...
Youths 15 to 24						
Population	4,368.3	4,369.8	1.5	25.3	0.0	0.6
Labour force	2,951.3	2,943.7	-7.6	33.4	-0.3	1.1
Employment	2,613.7	2,620.7	7.0	31.5	0.3	1.2
Full-time	1,468.1	1,443.9	-24.2	13.2	-1.6	0.9
Part-time	1,145.7	1,176.8	31.1	18.3	2.7	1.6
Unemployment	337.5	323.0	-14.5	2.0	-4.3	0.6
Participation rate	67.6	67.4	-0.2	0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	11.4	11.0	-0.4	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	59.8	60.0	0.2	0.4	...	...
Part-time rate	43.8	44.9	1.1	0.2	...	...
Men 25+						
Population	10,947.8	10,961.5	13.7	168.2	0.1	1.6
Labour force	8,098.3	8,149.4	51.1	190.0	0.6	2.4
Employment	7,702.3	7,721.8	19.5	189.9	0.3	2.5
Full-time	7,219.0	7,227.6	8.6	193.6	0.1	2.8
Part-time	483.2	494.2	11.0	-3.6	2.3	-0.7
Unemployment	396.0	427.7	31.7	0.2	8.0	0.0
Participation rate	74.0	74.3	0.3	0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.9	5.2	0.3	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	70.4	70.4	0.0	0.6	...	...
Part-time rate	6.3	6.4	0.1	-0.2	...	...
Women 25+						
Population	11,458.6	11,472.1	13.5	168.4	0.1	1.5
Labour force	7,109.3	7,122.9	13.6	103.4	0.2	1.5
Employment	6,786.2	6,774.3	-11.9	103.6	-0.2	1.6
Full-time	5,341.3	5,337.4	-3.9	83.2	-0.1	1.6
Part-time	1,444.9	1,437.0	-7.9	20.4	-0.5	1.4
Unemployment	323.1	348.6	25.5	-0.1	7.9	0.0
Participation rate	62.0	62.1	0.1	0.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.5	4.9	0.4	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	59.2	59.1	-0.1	0.1	...	...
Part-time rate	21.3	21.2	-0.1	0.0	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Employment by class of worker and industry (based on NAICS)¹

	February 2008	March 2008	February to March 2008	March 2007 to March 2008	February to March 2008	March 2007 to March 2008
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Class of worker						
Employees	14,485.4	14,508.6	23.2	280.1	0.2	2.0
Self-employed	2,616.8	2,608.2	-8.6	44.9	-0.3	1.8
Public/private sector employees						
Public	3,408.8	3,411.7	2.9	188.6	0.1	5.9
Private	11,076.7	11,097.0	20.3	91.6	0.2	0.8
All industries	17,102.2	17,116.8	14.6	325.0	0.1	1.9
Goods-producing sector	4,000.3	4,008.1	7.8	17.8	0.2	0.4
Agriculture	338.0	337.7	-0.3	9.5	-0.1	2.9
Natural resources	332.7	339.3	6.6	-1.5	2.0	-0.4
Utilities	149.7	150.9	1.2	19.8	0.8	15.1
Construction	1,203.7	1,213.3	9.6	103.3	0.8	9.3
Manufacturing	1,976.3	1,966.9	-9.4	-113.3	-0.5	-5.4
Service-producing sector	13,101.9	13,108.7	6.8	307.2	0.1	2.4
Trade	2,694.0	2,697.0	3.0	30.6	0.1	1.1
Transportation and warehousing	844.9	864.8	19.9	42.0	2.4	5.1
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	1,087.2	1,074.3	-12.9	1.3	-1.2	0.1
Professional, scientific and technical services	1,199.1	1,198.3	-0.8	83.2	-0.1	7.5
Business, building and other support services	710.9	721.1	10.2	29.3	1.4	4.2
Educational services	1,187.4	1,190.8	3.4	16.6	0.3	1.4
Health care and social assistance	1,878.3	1,883.1	4.8	45.8	0.3	2.5
Information, culture and recreation	780.5	756.2	-24.3	-21.9	-3.1	-2.8
Accommodation and food services	1,044.2	1,053.7	9.5	-20.4	0.9	-1.9
Other services	752.1	743.1	-9.0	15.1	-1.2	2.1
Public administration	923.4	926.3	2.9	85.5	0.3	10.2

1. North American Industry Classification System.

Note: Related to CANSIM tables 282-0088 and 282-0089.

Labour force characteristics by province

	February 2008	March 2008	February to March 2008	March 2007 to March 2008	February to March 2008	March 2007 to March 2008
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador						
Population	425.2	425.4	0.2	-0.3	0.0	-0.1
Labour force	255.7	253.1	-2.6	-0.3	-1.0	-0.1
Employment	222.2	221.3	-0.9	3.7	-0.4	1.7
Full-time	188.2	187.4	-0.8	-0.3	-0.4	-0.2
Part-time	34.0	34.0	0.0	4.1	0.0	13.7
Unemployment	33.5	31.8	-1.7	-4.0	-5.1	-11.2
Participation rate	60.1	59.5	-0.6	0.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	13.1	12.6	-0.5	-1.5	...	...
Employment rate	52.3	52.0	-0.3	0.9	...	...
Prince Edward Island						
Population	113.9	113.8	-0.1	1.0	-0.1	0.9
Labour force	78.3	79.1	0.8	1.1	1.0	1.4
Employment	70.6	71.0	0.4	1.1	0.6	1.6
Full-time	59.7	58.8	-0.9	1.8	-1.5	3.2
Part-time	10.9	12.1	1.2	-0.7	11.0	-5.5
Unemployment	7.8	8.2	0.4	0.1	5.1	1.2
Participation rate	68.7	69.5	0.8	0.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	10.0	10.4	0.4	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	62.0	62.4	0.4	0.4	...	...
Nova Scotia						
Population	766.6	767.0	0.4	3.3	0.1	0.4
Labour force	485.6	487.7	2.1	2.0	0.4	0.4
Employment	448.4	449.5	1.1	2.8	0.2	0.6
Full-time	364.1	365.3	1.2	1.3	0.3	0.4
Part-time	84.3	84.1	-0.2	1.3	-0.2	1.6
Unemployment	37.3	38.3	1.0	-0.7	2.7	-1.8
Participation rate	63.3	63.6	0.3	0.0	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.7	7.9	0.2	-0.1	...	...
Employment rate	58.5	58.6	0.1	0.1	...	...
New Brunswick						
Population	616.1	616.6	0.5	4.5	0.1	0.7
Labour force	400.3	400.2	-0.1	11.4	0.0	2.9
Employment	367.8	366.3	-1.5	6.6	-0.4	1.8
Full-time	313.7	310.3	-3.4	8.0	-1.1	2.6
Part-time	54.1	56.1	2.0	-1.4	3.7	-2.4
Unemployment	32.5	33.9	1.4	4.8	4.3	16.5
Participation rate	65.0	64.9	-0.1	1.4	...	...
Unemployment rate	8.1	8.5	0.4	1.0	...	...
Employment rate	59.7	59.4	-0.3	0.6	...	...
Quebec						
Population	6,348.9	6,353.5	4.6	56.2	0.1	0.9
Labour force	4,186.2	4,191.4	5.2	49.6	0.1	1.2
Employment	3,894.8	3,887.3	-7.5	57.7	-0.2	1.5
Full-time	3,186.3	3,164.0	-22.3	45.6	-0.7	1.5
Part-time	708.5	723.3	14.8	12.1	2.1	1.7
Unemployment	291.4	304.1	12.7	-8.1	4.4	-2.6
Participation rate	65.9	66.0	0.1	0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	7.0	7.3	0.3	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	61.3	61.2	-0.1	0.4	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Labour force characteristics by province

	February 2008	March 2008	February to March 2008	March 2007 to March 2008	February to March 2008	March 2007 to March 2008
Seasonally adjusted						
	thousands		change in thousands		% change	
Ontario						
Population	10,448.3	10,459.9	11.6	141.3	0.1	1.4
Labour force	7,124.4	7,146.3	21.9	116.1	0.3	1.7
Employment	6,690.0	6,688.2	-1.8	119.2	0.0	1.8
Full-time	5,495.1	5,470.6	-24.5	81.4	-0.4	1.5
Part-time	1,194.9	1,217.6	22.7	37.8	1.9	3.2
Unemployment	434.4	458.0	23.6	-3.2	5.4	-0.7
Participation rate	68.2	68.3	0.1	0.2	...	...
Unemployment rate	6.1	6.4	0.3	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	64.0	63.9	-0.1	0.2	...	...
Manitoba						
Population	905.1	905.9	0.8	10.3	0.1	1.2
Labour force	627.8	630.1	2.3	9.5	0.4	1.5
Employment	601.4	602.7	1.3	8.9	0.2	1.5
Full-time	489.1	494.0	4.9	21.4	1.0	4.5
Part-time	112.3	108.7	-3.6	-12.5	-3.2	-10.3
Unemployment	26.4	27.4	1.0	0.7	3.8	2.6
Participation rate	69.4	69.6	0.2	0.3	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.2	4.3	0.1	0.0	...	...
Employment rate	66.4	66.5	0.1	0.2	...	...
Saskatchewan						
Population	760.7	762.2	1.5	14.0	0.2	1.9
Labour force	530.6	529.9	-0.7	6.1	-0.1	1.2
Employment	509.0	508.2	-0.8	4.8	-0.2	1.0
Full-time	418.4	418.4	0.0	13.4	0.0	3.3
Part-time	90.6	89.8	-0.8	-8.6	-0.9	-8.7
Unemployment	21.6	21.8	0.2	1.4	0.9	6.9
Participation rate	69.8	69.5	-0.3	-0.5	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.1	4.1	0.0	0.2	...	...
Employment rate	66.9	66.7	-0.2	-0.6	...	...
Alberta						
Population	2,775.8	2,779.2	3.4	63.3	0.1	2.3
Labour force	2,067.5	2,075.9	8.4	64.3	0.4	3.2
Employment	1,994.9	2,004.5	9.6	65.2	0.5	3.4
Full-time	1,677.8	1,695.7	17.9	64.3	1.1	3.9
Part-time	317.1	308.8	-8.3	0.9	-2.6	0.3
Unemployment	72.6	71.4	-1.2	-0.9	-1.7	-1.2
Participation rate	74.5	74.7	0.2	0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	3.5	3.4	-0.1	-0.2	...	...
Employment rate	71.9	72.1	0.2	0.7	...	...
British Columbia						
Population	3,614.1	3,619.9	5.8	68.2	0.2	1.9
Labour force	2,402.5	2,422.2	19.7	67.1	0.8	2.8
Employment	2,303.2	2,317.9	14.7	55.2	0.6	2.4
Full-time	1,835.0	1,843.7	8.7	52.3	0.5	2.9
Part-time	468.2	474.2	6.0	2.9	1.3	0.6
Unemployment	99.3	104.4	5.1	12.0	5.1	13.0
Participation rate	66.5	66.9	0.4	0.6	...	...
Unemployment rate	4.1	4.3	0.2	0.4	...	...
Employment rate	63.7	64.0	0.3	0.3	...	...

... not applicable

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products

December 2007

Data on the net receipts of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons, liquefied petroleum gases and refined petroleum products, pipeline exports of crude oil and deliveries of crude oil by pipeline to Canadian refineries are now available for December.

Available on CANSIM: tables 133-0001 to 133-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2148 and 2191.

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; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Electric power statistics

January 2008

Data on electric power are now available for January.

Available on CANSIM: table 127-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2151.

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; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Canadian Community Health Survey: Nutrition

2004

Data from the latest release of the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) Cycle 2.2 (2004): Nutrition, are now available. This release includes previously unreleased data on vitamin and mineral supplements.

The CCHS Cycle 2.2 provides national and provincial information about dietary intake, nutritional well-being and their key determinants. The survey collected information through a general health questionnaire and a 24 hour dietary recall.

As part of the general health questionnaire, respondents reported their supplement consumption over the past month, including the type of supplements that were consumed, as well as the amount and frequency of consumption.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5049.

For further information on the CCHS Cycle 2.2 or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality, contact Client Services (613-951-1746; hd-ds@statcan.ca), Health Statistics Division. ■

Coal and coke statistics

January 2008

Data on coal and coke are now available for January.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0016.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2003 and 2147.

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; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

New products

Labour Force Information, March 9 to 15, 2008
Catalogue number 71-001-XWE
(free).

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

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette; -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc; -XVB or -XVE are electronic versions on DVD and -XBB or -XBE a database.

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The Daily, April 4, 2008

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Release date	Title	Reference period
7	International merchandise trade: 2007 annual review	2007
7	Building permits	February 2008
9	Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey	2007 and fourth quarter 2007
10	Canadian international merchandise trade	February 2008
10	Canadian Economic Observer: Year-end review of the economy	2007
11	New Housing Price Index	February 2008