

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, November 27, 2008

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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Releases

International travel account

Third quarter 2008 (preliminary)

Canada's international travel deficit narrowed for the third consecutive quarter in the third quarter of 2008 to over \$2.9 billion, dropping below the \$3-billion mark for the first time in a year.

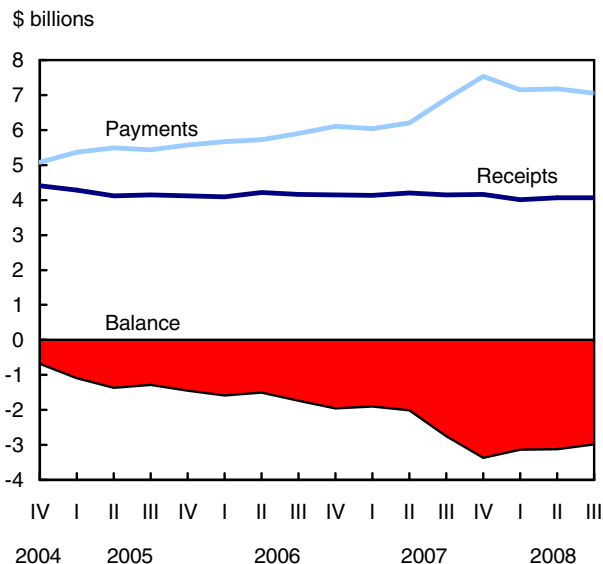
Lower spending by Canadians abroad and higher spending by foreigners in Canada both contributed to the decline.

Canadian residents spent about \$7.1 billion on travel in the third quarter of 2008, down 1.7% from the previous quarter and the lowest level since the third quarter of 2007. Spending outside Canada is still relatively high. Prior to the fourth quarter of 2007, travel spending abroad had never reached the \$7.0-billion mark.

Spending by foreign travellers in Canada edged up 0.2% to \$4.1 billion, the second consecutive increase and the highest level this year.

Since the third quarter of 2004, spending by foreign travellers in Canada has been fairly stable, hovering between \$4.0 billion and \$4.4 billion.

Travel deficit drops for third consecutive quarter



On the other hand, outbound spending by Canadians has been on an upward trend, fluctuating

Note to readers

This international travel account analysis is based on preliminary quarterly data, seasonally adjusted unless otherwise stated. Amounts are in Canadian dollars and are not adjusted for inflation.

Receipts represent spending by foreigners travelling in Canada, including education spending, medical spending and spending by crew members. **Payments** represent spending by Canadian residents travelling abroad, including education spending, medical spending and spending by crew members.

Overseas countries are those other than the United States.

between \$5.1 billion and \$7.5 billion. As a result, the travel deficit has nearly quadrupled in four years.

Travel deficit with the United States falls but remains high

Canada's travel deficit with the United States fell to \$2.2 billion in the third quarter of 2008, down \$80 million from the second quarter.

The travel deficit with the United States has fallen by \$377 million this year but still remains high. The deficit peaked at \$2.6 billion in the fourth quarter of 2007 after more than doubling from \$1.2 billion in the second quarter of 2007.

Canadians spent \$4.1 billion in the United States in the third quarter, down 1.8% from the previous quarter. Despite the decrease, this was still the third highest quarterly level ever.

The drop in spending was in line with a 1.5% decline in overnight travel to the United States compared with the previous quarter. Canadian residents made 4.7 million overnight trips to the United States in the third quarter of 2008, the lowest in a year.

In the opposite direction, American travellers spent \$1.9 billion in Canada in the third quarter, up 0.3% from the second quarter and the highest level this year. This was the second consecutive quarterly increase.

American spending in Canada has been below the \$2.0-billion mark for four quarters in a row. Before this period, the last time spending was below this benchmark was in the first quarter of 1998.

The increase in American spending occurred despite a 4.4% decline in overnight travel from the United States. US residents made 3.0 million overnight trips to Canada in the third quarter, the lowest level in nearly 15 years.

Travel deficit with overseas countries falls to lowest level in a year and a half

Canada's travel deficit with overseas countries fell \$54 million to \$771 million in the third quarter of 2008, the lowest level since the first quarter of 2007.

Lower spending by Canadians overseas mostly contributed to the decline. Canadians spent \$2.9 billion in countries other than the United States in the third quarter, about 1.7% less from the previous quarter.

This was the second consecutive quarterly decline in travel spending overseas but only the fourth drop in four years.

The decrease in spending occurred despite increased travel overseas, which climbed to 2.0 million trips in the third quarter, up 1.3% from the previous quarter.

Inbound spending by travellers from overseas countries edged up 0.2% to \$2.2 billion, the third highest level ever recorded.

Overnight travel from overseas countries slipped 1.7% to 1.2 million trips, also one of the highest levels ever.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3152 and 5005.

The international travel account for 2008 and the fourth quarter of 2008 will be released on February 26, 2009.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Eric Desjardins (613-951-1781; eric.desjardins@statcan.gc.ca) or Client Services, Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics (1-800-307-3382; 613-951-9169; fax: 613-951-2909; tourism@statcan.gc.ca).

International travel account receipts and payments

	Third quarter 2007 ^r	Second quarter 2008 ^r	Third quarter 2008 ^p	Second quarter to third quarter 2008
Seasonally adjusted				
	\$ millions			% change
United States				
Receipts	2,094	1,915	1,920	0.3
Payments	4,015	4,204	4,130	-1.8
Balance	-1,921	-2,290	-2,210	
All other countries				
Receipts	2,048	2,146	2,150	0.2
Payments	2,877	2,972	2,922	-1.7
Balance	-828	-826	-771	
Total				
Receipts	4,143	4,061	4,071	0.2
Payments	6,892	7,176	7,052	-1.7
Balance	-2,749	-3,116	-2,981	

^r revised

^p preliminary

Note: Data may not add to totals due to rounding.

Characteristics of international travellers

Second quarter 2008 (preliminary)

Canadian residents took 4.6 million overnight trips to the United States between April and June, up 12.1% from the second quarter of 2007.

Second quarter travel to overseas countries also continued its upward trend. Canadians took nearly 1.9 million overnight trips to countries other than the United States between April and June, up 9.5% from the same quarter last year.

In total, Canadians made 6.4 million trips out of the country between April and June 2008, up 11.4%. This was the fourth consecutive year-over-year increase for second quarter travel abroad.

Pleasure travel to the United States on the rise

Pleasure trips, which accounted for 59.6% of overnight Canadian travel to the United States, rose 19.3% from the second quarter of 2007. The number of business trips, however, declined 5.8% to 637,000.

The number of overnight trips by plane increased 12.4%, while the number of overnight trips by automobile rose 14.7%.

Spending by Canadians in the United States rose 17.6% to nearly \$3.7 billion. Average spending per overnight trip increased from \$762 to \$799.

The Canadian dollar had an average value of 99.0 US cents in the second quarter of 2008. This was up from 91.1 US cents during the same three months of 2007.

Fewer American visitors coming to Canada

United States residents took 3.3 million overnight trips to Canada during the second quarter of this year, a 7.8% decline from the same period in 2007. This was the fewest number of overnight visitors from the United States during a second quarter since 1994.

Travel by car remained the most popular method for overnight trips to Canada, accounting for 57.4% of all overnight trips from the United States. Even so, travel by car declined by 9.1% to 1.9 million trips.

Overnight travel from the United States decreased in two main purpose categories. Business travel fell 1.2%, while pleasure trips were down 12.5%. About 618,000 Americans crossed the border to visit friends and relatives in Canada, up 0.5%.

American residents spent \$1.7 billion in Canada, down 10.2% from the second quarter of 2007.

Top three overseas destinations: United Kingdom, France and Cuba

The top three overseas destinations for Canadians making overnight visits were the United Kingdom, France and Cuba.

Canadians spent nearly \$2.8 billion on their overnight trips, up 3.4% from the second quarter of 2007.

More overseas visitors coming to Canada

The number of overseas visitors taking overnight trips to Canada increased 6.2% in the second quarter of 2008 to just over 1.2 million.

The United Kingdom remained the top overseas country of origin with 232,000 overnight trips to Canada. France and Germany were next, with Japan dropping to fourth spot from second place a year earlier.

Japanese residents took 66,000 overnight trips to Canada in the second quarter of this year, down 16.5% from the same period in 2007. This was a continuation of a downward trend in the number of visitors from Japan.

Overall, overseas residents spent \$1.6 billion on overnight trips in Canada, up 2.8% from the second quarter of 2007.

Top 10 overseas countries of origin for travellers to Canada¹

	Second quarter 2007 ¹	Second quarter 2008 ²	Second quarter 2007 to second quarter 2008
Overnight trips (thousands)			% change
United Kingdom	230	232	1.0
France	77	89	16.5
Germany	78	88	12.9
Japan	79	66	-16.5
Mexico	60	66	10.0
Australia	61	63	3.9
South Korea	45	46	2.0
India	43	45	6.7
China	37	42	12.0
Netherlands	35	38	7.3

1. Might include other countries.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3152.

This release summarises data now available from the International Travel Survey. Tables, various statistical profiles and microdata files of characteristics of international travellers using preliminary second quarter 2008 data and revised first quarter 2008 data are now available on request.

Data on characteristics of international travellers for the third quarter of 2008 will be released on February 26, 2009.

To obtain one or more of these products, 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, contact Frances Kremarik (613-951-4240; fax: 613-951-2909; frances.kremarik@statcan.gc.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

Overnight travel between Canada and other countries

	Trips				Expenditures			
	Second quarter 2007 ^r	First quarter 2008 ^r	Second quarter 2008 ^p	Second quarter 2007 to second quarter 2008	Second quarter 2007 ^r	First quarter 2008 ^r	Second quarter 2008 ^p	Second quarter 2007 to second quarter 2008
	thousands			% change	\$ millions			% change
Canadian trips abroad	5,789	7,249	6,447	11.4	5,781	7,245	6,420	11.1
To the United States	4,090	4,493	4,586	12.1	3,117	3,800	3,666	17.6
To other countries	1,699	2,756	1,860	9.5	2,664	3,445	2,754	3.4
Travel to Canada	4,745	2,404	4,535	-4.4	3,454	1,859	3,303	-4.4
From the United States	3,592	1,725	3,310	-7.8	1,912	870	1,717	-10.2
From other countries	1,153	679	1,225	6.2	1,542	990	1,586	2.8

^r revised

^p preliminary

■

Public sector employment

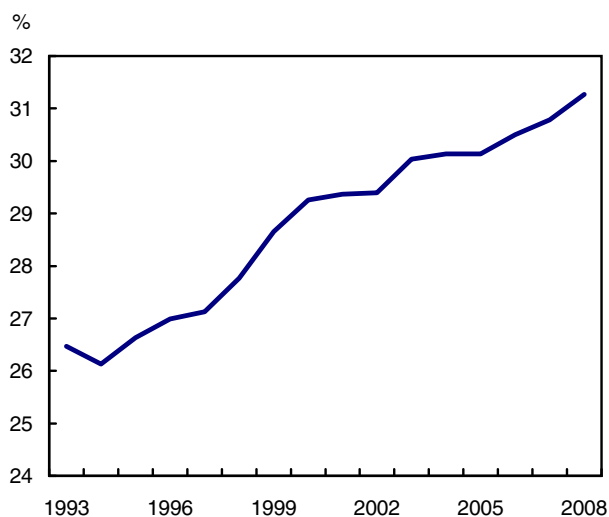
Third quarter 2008 (preliminary)

Public sector employment reached 3.2 million in the third quarter of 2008, up 2.8% from the same period in 2007.

Following government cutbacks throughout the 1990s, public sector employment has been growing since 2000. After a pause in 2004, the pace of growth has been increasing over the last four years.

The proportion of public sector workers among the total employed in the labour force rose to 17.6% in the third quarter of 2008, but has remained relatively stable since 2001.

The proportion of total federal government workforce in the Ottawa-Gatineau region has recently resumed its growth



In the third quarter of 2008, the year-over-year growth rate in the Alberta public sector (+5.7%) continued to outpace other provinces. British Columbia and Ontario ranked second and third respectively.

All major components of public sector employment posted gains in the third quarter of 2008. The main contributors were government business enterprises, with an increase of 19,800 (+6.7%) compared with the same quarter of 2007. Provincial government business enterprises in the western provinces accounted for 40% of this growth.

Employment rose by 2.0% in educational institutions, mainly in universities and colleges (+3.2%) compared with the same quarter of 2007.

In the third quarter of 2008, the growth rate in the local general government (+3.7%) continued to outpace

federal (+3.1%) and provincial and territorial (+2.3%) general governments. Since 2000, all three levels of general governments (federal, provincial and territorial and local) had experienced an upward trend.

Health and social services institutions year-over-year employment growth rate has decreased from 3.2% in the third quarter of 2007 to 1.7% in 2008. Alberta has been the main contributor in the employment growth in recent years.

Total public sector wages and salaries rose by 5.3% compared with the same quarter last year.

Note: All historical data in the text refers to the third quarter of every year. The public sector includes all economic entities controlled by government, and is comprised of four major components: federal government (general government, which includes ministries, departments, agencies and non-autonomous funds, autonomous funds and organizations, as well as federal non-autonomous pension plans); provincial and territorial government (general government, which includes ministries, departments, agencies and non-autonomous funds, autonomous funds and organizations, as well as universities and colleges, health and social service institutions, and provincial non-autonomous pension plans); local government (general government, which includes municipalities and non-autonomous funds, autonomous funds and organizations, as well as school boards); and government business enterprises (institutional units controlled by government but that operate as commercial corporations in the marketplace).

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, refer to the document entitled *Reconciliation of Public Sector Employment Estimates from Multiple Information Sources* by clicking on survey number 1713.

Available on CANSIM: tables 183-0021 and 183-0022.

Data tables on public sector employment are also available from the *National economic accounts* module of our website.

For more information or to order data, contact Client Services (613-951-0767; pid-info-dip@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality

of this release, contact Alain Baril (613-951-4131; alain.baril@statcan.gc.ca), Public Institutions Division.

Public sector employment

	Third quarter 2007 thousands	Third quarter 2008
Public sector	3,082	3,167
Government	2,788	2,853
General government	1,167	1,203
Federal	387	399
Provincial and territorial	370	378
Local	410	425
Educational institutions	806	822
Universities and colleges ¹	319	330
School boards	487	492
Health and social services institutions	814	828
Government business enterprises	294	314

1. Includes vocational and trade institutions.

Note: Numbers may not add up due to rounding.

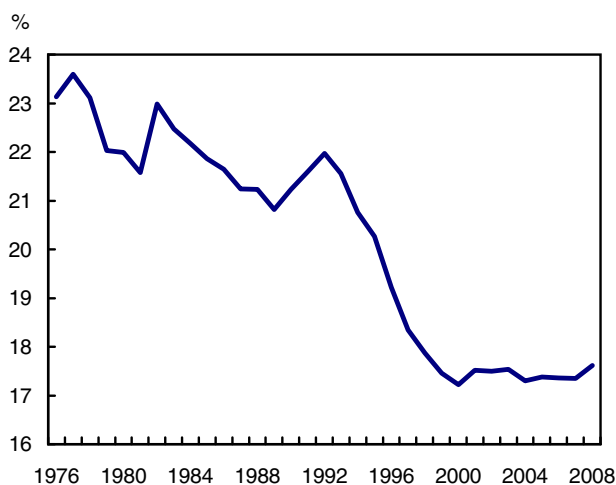
Federal government employment in census metropolitan areas

September 2008

Three-quarters of all federal government employees worked in a census metropolitan area (CMA) in September 2008.

Federal government employment in the 33 CMAs approached 300,000, up 2.6% compared with September 2007.

After being stable for many years, the proportion of public sector employment among the total employed labour force showed a small increase in the third quarter of 2008



Ottawa–Gatineau led the way with 124,800 workers or 31.3% of total federal government employment. Montréal (23,600) and Toronto (21,400) had the next largest employment by CMA.

The percentage of federal government employees in the Ottawa–Gatineau region has continued its upward trend after remaining stable between 2003 and 2005. Almost one out of three federal government employees are working in this region compared with one out of four at the beginning of the 1990s.

The proportion of the federal government employment in Ottawa–Gatineau has increased to 18.4% of the region's total employed labour force, the second consecutive annual increase. The proportion had been stable in previous years, following a downward trend during the 1990s.

Halifax ranked second in the proportion of federal public servants among its total employed labour force at 8.1%. The proportion in the other metropolitan regions ranged from 5.7% in Kingston to 0.2% in Oshawa and Barrie.

Note: To provide comparability between the Public Sector Employment program and the Labour Force Survey, statistics for this release are based on the 2001 Standard Geographical Classification census metropolitan definition. Additional CMAs based on the 2006 Standard Geographical Classification (Moncton, Barrie, Guelph, Peterborough, Brantford and Kelowna) are presented here, although they were census agglomerations when based on the 2001 Standard Geographical Classification. The term "Federal Government" presented in this release includes all organizations controlled by

the federal government that are not-for-profit and produce non commercial goods and services on behalf of the government and its citizens. The count of Federal Government employees includes agencies (for example the Canada Revenue Agency), the Canadian military (regular forces and reservists), and uniformed Royal Canadian Mounted Police members. However, these statistics do not include employees of federal government business enterprises that operate as commercial corporations in the marketplace. The employment count reflects the last pay period of the month of September.

Available on CANSIM: table 183-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1713.

Labour Force Survey data can be found on CANSIM.

Available on CANSIM: tables 282-0052 and 282-0056.

Data tables on public sector employment are also available from the *National economic accounts* module of our website.

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

Employment within census metropolitan areas, September 2008¹

	Total employment ²	Federal government employment	Federal government employment as a proportion of total employment
	thousands		%
Ottawa–Gatineau	678.7	124.8	18.4
Halifax	209.4	17.0	8.1
Kingston	80.8	4.6	5.7
Victoria	192.8	9.7	5.0
St. John's	101.6	4.9	4.8
Moncton	74.1	3.0	4.0
Québec	397.5	14.3	3.6
Saguenay	71.4	2.3	3.3
Winnipeg	396.0	12.0	3.0
Regina	115.3	3.3	2.8
Greater Sudbury	82.4	2.1	2.5
Edmonton	620.8	13.3	2.1
Saskatoon	139.3	2.5	1.8
Saint John	64.6	1.1	1.7
Abbotsford	90.7	1.5	1.7
Sherbrooke	84.3	1.2	1.4
Vancouver	1,243.8	17.4	1.4
Windsor	157.7	2.1	1.3
Thunder Bay	63.4	0.8	1.3
Montréal	1,921.3	23.6	1.2
London	248.4	2.3	0.9
Guelph	75.3	0.6	0.8
Hamilton	379.6	2.9	0.8
Toronto	2,923.7	21.4	0.7
Trois-Rivières	69.2	0.5	0.7
St. Catharines–Niagara	200.7	1.3	0.6
Calgary	715.3	4.3	0.6
Brantford	53.6	0.3	0.6
Peterborough	57.7	0.3	0.6
Kitchener	257.9	1.1	0.4
Kelowna	98.8	0.4	0.4
Barrie	95.9	0.2	0.2
Oshawa	188.4	0.3	0.2
Total	12,150.4	297.2	2.4

1. Go online to view the census subdivisions that comprise the census metropolitan areas.

2. Data obtained from the Labour Force Survey, based on the 2001 Standard Geographical Classification.

Placement of hatchery chicks and turkey poults

October 2008 (preliminary)

Placements of hatchery chicks on farms totalled 57.4 million birds in October, down 2.4% from October 2007. Placements of turkey poults on farms increased 10.5% to 1.6 million birds.

Available on CANSIM: table 003-0021.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5039.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bernadette Alain (902-893-7251 bernadette.alain@statcan.gc.ca) Sandra Venturino (613-951-9278 sandra.venturino@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index

October 2008

The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index decreased 1.8% from a month earlier to 144.0 (2003=100) in October. The courier portion fell 2.0%, while the local messengers component was down 1.2%.

Note: The Couriers and Messengers Services Price Index is a monthly price index measuring the change over time in prices for courier and messenger services

provided by long and short distance delivery companies to Canadian-based business clients.

These indexes are available at the Canada level only.

Available on CANSIM: table 329-0053.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5064.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Client Services Section (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; prices-prix@statcan.gc.ca), Prices Division. ■

Domestic travel

2007 (revised)

The 2007 Public Microdata Files for domestic travel from the Travel Survey of Residents of Canada are now available.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3810.

For more information or to obtain data, contact Client Services (613-951-9169; toll-free 1-800-307-3382; fax: 613-951-2909; cult.tourstats@statcan.gc.ca), Culture Tourism, and the Centre for Education Statistics. To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Marinka Ménard (613-951-9602; fax: 613-951-2909; marinka.menard@statcan.gc.ca), Tourism Statistics Program. ■

New products

Retail Trade, September 2008, Vol. 80, no. 9
Catalogue number 63-005-XWE
(free).

Government Expenditures on Culture: Data Tables, 2003/2004
Catalogue number 87F0001XWE
(free).

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

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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

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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