

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, February 20, 2009

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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Consumer prices rose 1.1% in the 12 months to January 2009, slightly less than the 1.2% increase observed in December. On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, consumer prices fell 0.1% from December to January.

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Canada lost nearly 322,000 manufacturing jobs from 2004 to 2008, with more than one in seven manufacturing jobs disappearing over the period.

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The prevalence of obesity in the Canadian workforce, especially for men, has risen during the past decade. In 2005, 15.7% of employed Canadians age 18 to 64, or more than two million people, were obese, up from 12.5% in the mid-1990s.

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Releases

Consumer Price Index

January 2009

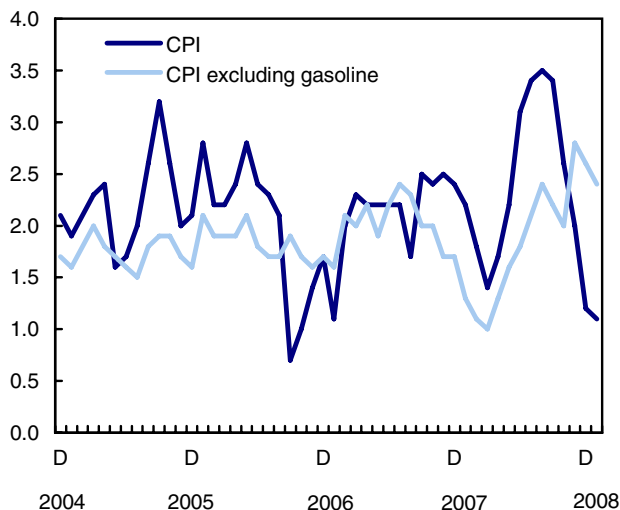
Consumer prices rose 1.1% in the 12 months to January 2009, slightly less than the 1.2% increase observed in December.

Compared with the same month last year, downward pressure in January came mainly from lower gasoline prices, but also from a sharp decline in the cost for purchasing and leasing passenger vehicles. Upward pressure on the all-items index came mostly from higher food and shelter prices.

The rate of change in consumer prices has been slowing since September 2008.

Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation continues to slow as the CPI excluding gasoline retreats

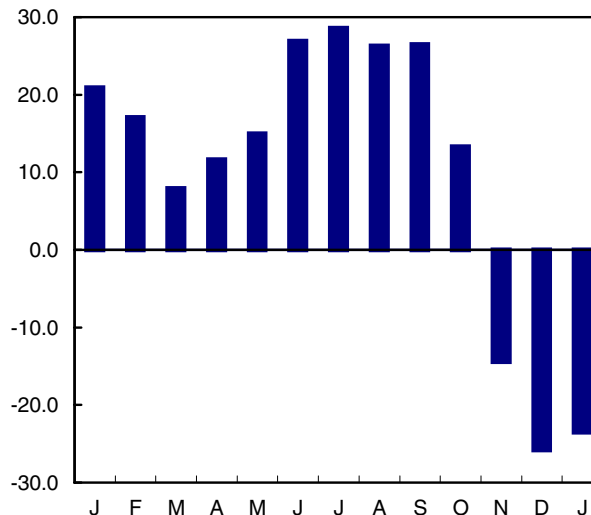
12-month % change



Gasoline prices in January 2009 were 23.5% below the level in the same month in 2008. Price declines for fuel oil and other fuels also helped moderate consumer price increases. Overall, energy prices fell 10.9% in January, nearly matching the 11.0% decline posted in December.

Gasoline prices continue to decline year-over-year

12-month % change



Food prices increased 7.3% during the 12-month period to January, identical to the increase in December. Bakery and cereal products and fresh vegetables exerted upward pressure on the food index.

Shelter costs were also a significant upward contributor to the 12-month change in consumer prices in January, especially mortgage interest payments, which rose as a result of higher housing prices and despite lower mortgage interest rates.

Seasonally adjusted monthly change: A decrease from December

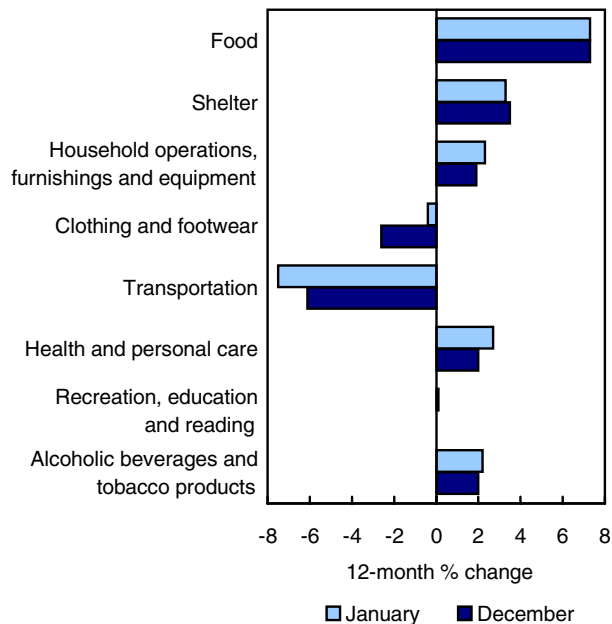
On a seasonally adjusted monthly basis, consumer prices fell 0.1% from December to January, following monthly declines of 0.3% in December, 0.3% in November and 0.6% in October. January's decline reflected price decreases for transportation items, which outweighed higher prices for food. Excluding food and energy, seasonally adjusted consumer prices decreased 0.2% in January.

12-month change: Significant drop in transportation prices offsets higher food prices

The transportation price index declined 7.5% in January; the drop in both gasoline prices and the cost

of purchasing and leasing passenger vehicles were the main contributors.

Transportation price index continues to fall



The cost of purchasing and leasing passenger vehicles fell 8.2% compared with a year earlier, a significantly sharper decline than the 3.5% year-over-year drop observed in December. The decline reflected manufacturer incentives provided on 2009 vehicle models in response to the current downturn in auto sales.

These declines were slightly offset by a 4.1% increase in prices for passenger vehicle insurance premiums and a 4.2% increase in air transportation costs. However, the rate of growth was slower in both indexes than in December.

Prices for food purchased from stores rose 8.6% in the 12 months to January. The main contributor was a 10.5% rise in prices for bakery and cereal products, compared with the 12.4% increase in December. Higher prices for fresh vegetables were also a significant contributor.

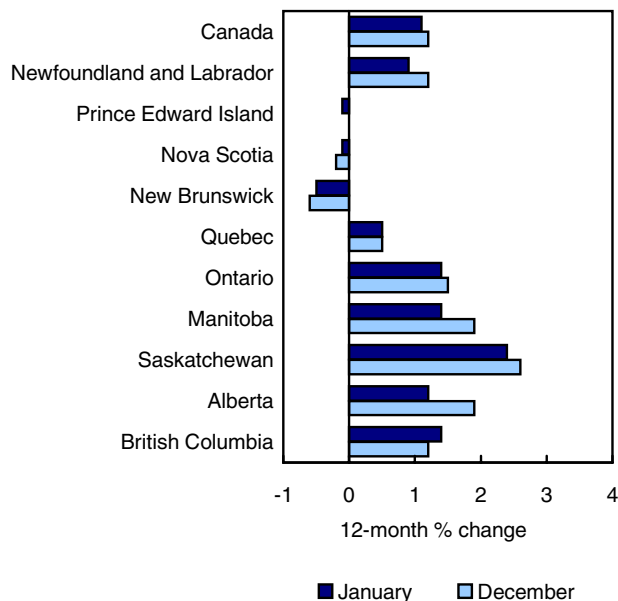
Shelter costs remained the second largest contributor to the increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), rising 3.3% in the 12 months to January. The increase primarily reflected higher mortgage interest costs and natural gas prices. Overall, the rise in the cost of shelter continued to moderate from the 3.5% increase in December and the 3.9% increase in November.

Prices for clothing and footwear fell 0.4% in the 12 months to January. This was a much slower pace of decline than the 2.6% drop in December.

Wide variation in 12-month consumer price change among the provinces

Consumers in three Atlantic provinces saw a modest drop in consumer prices in the 12 months to January. In both Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, consumer prices in January 2009 were 0.1% below levels in the same month a year earlier. In New Brunswick, the 12-month decline was 0.5%.

Three Atlantic provinces report overall declines in consumer prices



The primary contributors to the declines in these three provinces were decreases in prices for gasoline, purchase and leasing of passenger vehicles and a drop in the 12-month price of fuel oil and other fuels. Fuel oil and other fuel products are used in greater intensity in the Atlantic provinces, resulting in a greater impact on consumer prices.

Alone among the Atlantic provinces, Newfoundland and Labrador (+0.9%) posted an increase in consumer prices, partly the result of a rise in homeowner's replacement costs, which represent the cost of maintaining a housing structure.

Excluding energy, consumer prices rose by 2.2% in Nova Scotia, 2.1% in New Brunswick and 2.5% in Prince Edward Island.

Elsewhere, Quebec maintained the lowest positive rate of growth in consumer prices, posting a 0.5% increase. The increase in consumer prices in Ontario slowed from 1.5% in December to 1.4% in the 12-months to January.

Consumer prices increased at the fastest pace in Saskatchewan (+2.4%). Alberta experienced the most significant slowdown in consumer price increases, slowing from 1.9% in December to 1.2% in the 12-months to January.

Bank of Canada's core index increases

The Bank of Canada's core index increased 1.9% over the 12 months to January, a slowdown from the 2.4% rise in December. Lower prices for purchasing and leasing of passenger vehicles attenuated the increase in the core index. In contrast, higher prices for bread, cereal products and meat were the primary upward contributors.

The seasonally adjusted monthly core index fell 0.3% from December to January, after a 0.1% increase from November to December.

For a more detailed analysis, consult the publication *The Consumer Price Index*.

Available on CANSIM: tables 326-0009, 326-0012, 326-0015, 326-0020 to 326-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2301.

More information about the concepts and use of the CPI are also available online in *Your Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (62-557-XIB, free) from the *Publications* module of our website.

The January 2009 issue of *The Consumer Price Index*, Vol. 88, no. 1 (62-001-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website. A paper copy is also available (62-001-XPE, \$12/\$111). See *How to order products*. A more detailed analysis of the CPI is available in this publication.

The February Consumer Price Index will be released on March 19.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; fax 613-951-2848; prices-prix@statcan.gc.ca), Prices Division.

□

Consumer Price Index and major components¹ (2002=100)

	Relative importance ²	January 2008	January 2009	December 2007 to December 2008	January 2008 to January 2009
Unadjusted					
				% change	
All-items	100.00³	111.8	113.0	1.2	1.1
Food	17.04	112.4	120.6	7.3	7.3
Shelter	26.62	119.2	123.1	3.5	3.3
Household operations and furnishings	11.10	103.3	105.7	1.9	2.3
Clothing and footwear	5.36	92.2	91.8	-2.6	-0.4
Transportation	19.88	117.6	108.8	-6.1	-7.5
Health and personal care	4.73	107.5	110.4	2.0	2.7
Recreation, education and reading	12.20	99.6	99.7	0.0	0.1
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	3.07	126.4	129.2	2.0	2.2
All-items (1992=100)		133.0	134.5	1.2	1.1
Special aggregates					
Goods	48.78	107.3	106.2	-0.8	-1.0
Services	51.22	116.2	119.7	3.1	3.0
All-items excluding food and energy	73.57	109.0	110.3	1.5	1.2
Energy	9.38	139.0	123.8	-11.0	-10.9
Core CPI ⁴	82.71	110.1	112.2	2.4	1.9

1. The month-to-month percentage changes are available from the monthly publication *The Consumer Price Index*.
2. 2005 CPI basket weights at April 2007 prices, Canada: Effective May 2007. Detailed weights are available under the Documentation section of survey 2301 (www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/index.htm).
3. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.
4. The measure of Core Consumer Price Index (CPI) excludes from the all-items CPI the effect of changes in indirect taxes and eight of the most volatile components identified by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. For additional information on Core CPI, please consult the Bank of Canada website (www.bankofcanada.ca/en/inflation/index.htm).

Consumer Price Index by province, and for Whitehorse, Yellowknife and Iqaluit (2002=100)

	Relative importance ¹	January 2008	January 2009	December 2007 to December 2008	January 2008 to January 2009
Unadjusted					
				% change	
Canada	100.00²	111.8	113.0	1.2	1.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	1.27	111.9	112.9	1.2	0.9
Prince Edward Island	0.35	114.2	114.1	0.0	-0.1
Nova Scotia	2.56	113.5	113.4	-0.2	-0.1
New Brunswick	1.97	111.7	111.1	-0.6	-0.5
Quebec	21.05	111.0	111.5	0.5	0.5
Ontario	41.22	110.9	112.4	1.5	1.4
Manitoba	3.06	110.8	112.4	1.9	1.4
Saskatchewan	2.64	113.0	115.7	2.6	2.4
Alberta	11.43	118.8	120.2	1.9	1.2
British Columbia	14.29	109.9	111.4	1.2	1.4
Whitehorse	0.06	110.4	113.0	3.0	2.4
Yellowknife	0.08	111.3	114.3	3.1	2.7
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	0.02	108.2	111.8	3.4	3.3

1. 2005 CPI basket weights at April 2007 prices, Canada: Effective May 2007. Detailed weights are available under the Documentation section of survey 2301 at (www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/index.htm).
2. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Consumer Price Index and major components (2002=100)

	Relative importance ¹	November 2008	December 2008	January 2009	November to December 2008	December 2008 to January 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
					% change	
All-items	100.00²	114.4	114.0	113.9	-0.3	-0.1
Food	17.04	119.8	119.8	120.1	0.0	0.3
Shelter	26.62	123.4	123.4	123.1	0.0	-0.2
Household operations and furnishings	11.10	105.6	105.6	105.8	0.0	0.2
Clothing and footwear	5.36	93.1	92.9	93.7	-0.2	0.9
Transportation	19.88	113.2	110.3	108.8	-2.6	-1.4
Health and personal care	4.73	109.9	110.1	110.6	0.2	0.5
Recreation, education and reading	12.20	102.1	102.0	101.8	-0.1	-0.2
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	3.07	128.5	128.7	129.2	0.2	0.4
Special aggregates						
All-items excluding food	82.96	113.0	112.0	111.5	-0.9	-0.4
All-items excluding food and energy	73.57	111.0	111.0	110.8	0.0	-0.2
All-items excluding eight of the most volatile components	82.71	111.4	111.5	111.3	0.1	-0.2
Core CPI ³	82.71	112.8	112.9	112.6	0.1	-0.3

1. 2005 CPI basket weights at April 2007 prices, Canada: Effective May 2007. Detailed weights are available under the Documentation section of survey 2301 at (www.statcan.ca/english/sdds/index.htm).

2. Figures may not add to 100% due to rounding.

3. The measure of Core Consumer Price Index (CPI) excludes from the all-items CPI the effect of changes in indirect taxes and eight of the most volatile components identified by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. For additional information on core CPI, please consult the Bank of Canada website (www.bankofcanada.ca/en/inflation/index.htm).



Study: Trends in manufacturing employment

2004 to 2008

Canada lost nearly 322,000 manufacturing jobs from 2004 to 2008, with more than one in seven manufacturing jobs disappearing over the period.

More than 1.5 million jobs were created in the rest of the economy during this period. The losses resulted in the erosion of the share of manufacturing jobs in the economy. In 2004, manufacturing represented 14.4% of total employment; in 2008, the proportion was 11.5%.

The manufacturing employment decline from 2004 to 2008 followed a period of growth from 1998 to 2000 and a period of relative stagnation from 2001 to 2004.

Almost all manufacturing industries have seen a sharp decline since 2004. Only a few saw employment increases from 2004 to 2008, notably manufacturing of transportation equipment (excluding motor vehicles and parts), petroleum and coal products, and computer and electronic products.

Although jobs were lost in the vast majority of manufacturing industries, some were hit harder than others. Textiles and clothing, long one of the largest manufacturing employers in the country, saw almost half of its jobs disappear.

The automotive industry was also hit hard. From 2004 to 2008, one in five motor vehicle and more than one in four motor vehicle parts manufacturing jobs were lost.

Ontario lost the majority, 198,600 manufacturing jobs, with nearly one in five (18.1%) jobs in this category being lost in Ontario in just four years. Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Quebec, British Columbia and Nova Scotia also lost more than 10%.

The country's very large cities were hit as hard as small towns and rural areas. Small towns and rural areas were as likely as very large cities to replace lost manufacturing jobs with jobs in other industries, for example, in the service sector or in construction. However, in small towns and rural areas, such jobs are often much lower paying than manufacturing jobs.

These trends are not unique to Canada — manufacturing has been declining in most Organisation

Note to readers

This article looks at recent trends in manufacturing employment in Canada, with data from the Labour Force Survey, a monthly survey of about 54,000 households. Employment is measured by the number of persons occupying a job.

for Economic Co-operation and Development countries. The situation in Canada was noticeable for being somewhat delayed, with manufacturing jobs beginning to decline only in 2004, while other countries, notably the United States, had already registered significant job losses for several years.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3701.

The article "Trends in manufacturing employment" is now available in the February 2009 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, Vol. 10, no. 2 (75-001-XWE, free), from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this article, contact André Bernard (613-951-4660; andre.bernard@statcan.gc.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

Also in this issue of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, "The labour market in 2008" looks at how employment, unemployment and earnings fared over the year. Following six years of strong employment growth, 2008 started with promise, the unemployment rate was at a 33-year low of 5.8% in January and the employment rate reached a record 63.9% in February. Over the year, however, the situation weakened. In December, the unemployment rate stood at 6.6%; the employment rate, 63.1%.

The article "The labour market in 2008" is now available in the February 2009 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, Vol. 10, no. 2 (75-001-XWE, free), from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this article, contact Jeannine Usalcas (613-951-4720; jeannine.usalcas@statcan.gc.ca), Labour Statistics Division. ■

Study: Obesity on the job

2005

The prevalence of obesity in the Canadian workforce, especially for men, has risen during the past decade. In 2005, 15.7% of employed Canadians aged 18 to 64, or more than two million people, were obese, up from 12.5% in the mid-1990s.

Obesity becomes more than just a personal health issue when it begins to affect job performance. The odds of being absent from work were almost four times higher for obese young men aged 18 to 34 than for those with normal weight, after controlling for socioeconomic and health-related factors.

Obesity was also related to reduced work activities, more disability days, and higher rates of work injury for women aged 35 to 54.

Obesity was most prevalent among older workers aged 55 to 64, 21% of whom were obese in 2005. This held for both men and women, although the prevalence was lower among women.

Male workers aged 35 to 54 with lower personal income levels were less likely to be obese than their counterparts with high income. However, women with low personal income were more likely to be obese than high-income earners.

Low education significantly increased the odds of obesity for both men and women, except for young workers aged 18 to 34. For example, workers aged 35 to 54 with less than a high school diploma were 1.6 times more likely to be obese than workers who had completed postsecondary education.

Significant differences in age-adjusted prevalence rates of obesity were found in some occupation-related categories for men. Compared with men in white-collar

Note to readers

This article uses data on weight and height from the Canadian Community Health Survey and the National Population Health Survey. It investigates trends in obesity among the employed and the sociodemographic and labour force correlates of obesity. It also examines associations between obesity and workplace stress, as well as some measures of job performance. Body mass index (BMI) was used to calculate obesity. BMI is equal to a person's weight in kilograms divided by the square of their height in metres.

jobs, a higher proportion of blue-collar workers were obese.

Men working longer hours (more than 40 per week) were also more likely to be obese than regular full-time workers who worked 30 to 40 hours per week.

Compared with regular-schedule workers, a greater proportion of shift workers, both men and women, were obese.

Obesity was also related to elevated levels of work stress. Obese workers reported higher job strain and lower support from co-workers.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3226, 3236, 5015 and 5049.

The article "Obesity on the job" is now available in the February 2009 online edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, Vol. 10, no. 2 (75-001-XWE, free), from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this article, contact Jungwee Park (613-951-4598; jungwee.park@statcan.gc.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division. ■

Public sector employment

Fourth quarter 2008 (preliminary)

Public sector employment reached 3.4 million in the fourth quarter of 2008, up by 96,000 or 2.9% over the same period in 2007.

Public sector workers accounted for 19.2% of total employed in the labour force, compared with 18.8% for the same quarter in 2007. This increase was due mainly to slower employment growth in the overall labour force.

Fourth-quarter employment gains in the public sector were concentrated in Ontario, Quebec and Alberta, which accounted for nearly three-quarters of total growth.

The increase in employment was spread among all components of the public sector. The main contributors were government business enterprises, where employment was up 25,000 compared with the same quarter of 2007.

Employment increased 4.7% among local general governments and 3.5% in the federal general government. Both outpaced the growth of 2.2% in provincial general governments. Since 2000, there has been an upward trend in employment for all three levels of general government, with local general government registering the strongest growth.

Employment in educational institutions increased in the fourth quarter, mainly because of gains in Alberta, Ontario and Quebec. Employment rose 2.9% in colleges and 1.4% in school boards, with minimal change in universities.

Health and social services institutions had 18,000 more employees in the fourth quarter of 2008. Quebec and Alberta each contributed nearly one-third of this growth.

Total public sector wages and salaries rose by 4.3% compared with the fourth quarter in 2007.

Note: All historical data in the text refers to the fourth quarter of every year. The public sector includes all

economic entities controlled by government, and is comprised of four major components: the three levels of government (federal, provincial and territorial and local); each has a general government component comprising ministries, departments, agencies and non-autonomous funds, autonomous funds and organizations, and non-autonomous pension plans; provincial and territorial government also includes universities and colleges, and health and social service institutions; local government also includes school boards; and the fourth component government business enterprises, which are institutional units controlled by government but which operate as commercial corporations in the marketplace. Persons hired for a few days for the October 2008 federal election are not included in these public sector employment statistics.

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; fe-pid-dipinfo@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

	Fourth quarter 2007	Fourth quarter 2008
	thousands	
Public sector	3,316	3,412
Government	3,027	3,098
General government	1,142	1,182
Federal	391	405
Provincial and territorial	355	363
Local	395	414
Educational institutions	1,078	1,092
Universities and colleges ¹	375	379
School boards	703	713
Health and social services institutions	806	824
Government business enterprises	290	314

1. Includes vocational and trade institutions.

Note: Numbers may not add up due to rounding.

■

Shipments of solid fuel burning heating products

Fourth quarter 2008

Data on shipments of solid fuel burning heating products are now available for the fourth quarter of 2008.

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

Investment in new housing construction

December 2008

Data on the investment in new housing construction (including single dwellings, semi-detached dwellings, row housing, apartments and condominiums) are now available for December.

These series are not offered on CANSIM.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5155.

To order data, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Nicole Charron (613-951-0087; bdp_information@statcan.gc.ca), Investment and Capital Stock Division. ■

New products

Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire,
December 2008, Vol. 4, no. 12
Catalogue number 41-019-XWE
(free).

**Report on Energy Supply and Demand in
Canada, 2007**
Catalogue number 57-003-XWE
(free).

The Consumer Price Index, January 2009, Vol. 88,
no. 1
Catalogue number 62-001-XWE
(free).

The Consumer Price Index, January 2009, Vol. 88,
no. 1
Catalogue number 62-001-XPE (\$12/\$111).

Perspectives on Labour and Income, February 2009,
Vol. 10, no. 2
Catalogue number 75-001-XWE
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Catalogue 11-001-XIE (English) 11-001-XIE-1000-1000-1000

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, May 29, 2008
Released at 9:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

Canada's balance of international payments, first quarter 2008	2
The current account surplus with the rest of the world (on a seasonally adjusted basis) increased sharply to \$5.5 billion in the first quarter of 2008, led by higher prices for several exported commodities compared with a lower base level. In the financial account, foreign direct investment flows into Canada slowed significantly from the expansion-driven pace of the previous quarter, while Canadian direct investment abroad continued to strengthen.	
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2006 Census profiles

Within the releases of the census and earnings release components, the complete cumulative profile is now available for census divisions, census subdivisions, dissemination areas, forward sortation areas, designated places, urban areas, and census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations with census subdivisions. To obtain these profiles in electronic format (links vary for different geography levels), contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre.

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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Release dates: February 23 to 27, 2009

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
23	Retail trade	December 2008
24	Employment Insurance	December 2008
25	Characteristics of international travellers	Third quarter 2008
25	Private and public investment in Canada	2009
26	Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises	Fourth quarter 2008
26	International travel account	Fourth quarter 2008
26	Payroll employment, earnings and hours	December 2008
27	Balance of international payments	Fourth quarter 2008
27	Industrial product and raw materials price indexes	January 2009