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New products

Perspectives on Labour and Income
Spring 2009 print edition

The spring 2009 print edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, released today, comprises five articles previously released online.

"Immigrants' education and required job skills" seeks factors that could account for the difficulty well-educated, established immigrants have in finding jobs in highly skilled occupations.

"Age and earnings" assesses the use of longitudinal data in constructing age-earnings profiles, which have traditionally been based on cross-sectional information.

"Trends in manufacturing employment" provides more detail on the continuing employment decline in manufacturing industries.

"Obesity on the job" examines factors and outcomes associated with being overweight in the workplace.

"The labour market in 2008" summarizes some of the major changes in the labour market over the year.

This edition also features an update on minimum wage employment and highlights of recent reports and studies of interest from Statistics Canada and other organizations.

The spring 2009 print edition of *Perspectives on Labour and Income*, Vol. 21, no. 1 (75-001-XPE, \$20/\$63), is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, contact Henry Pold (613-951-4608; henry.pold@statcan.gc.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

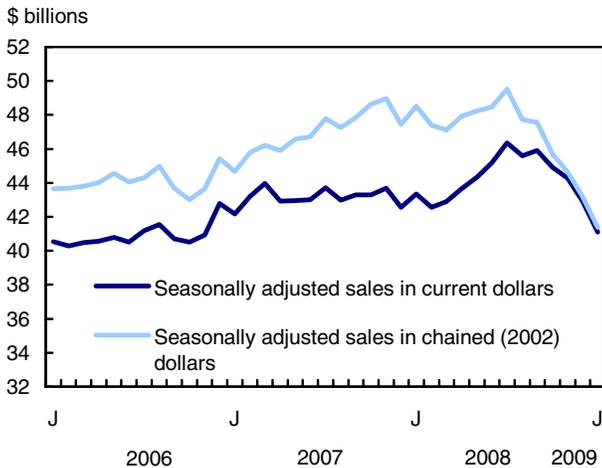
Releases

Wholesale trade

January 2009

Wholesale sales declined 4.2% to \$41.1 billion in current dollars in January. Lower activity in the automotive products sector was a major factor behind the decrease. Excluding the automotive products sector, wholesale sales fell 0.9%. In terms of the volume of sales, wholesale sales also fell 4.2%.

Wholesale sales fall for the fifth time in six months



Canadian wholesalers sell to both domestic and international markets, and are active importers and exporters. The decline in sales reflected both lower export demand for Canadian goods, a significant part of which flows through wholesale markets, and weaker sales in Canada.

In January, four out of seven sectors, which accounted for about two-thirds of total wholesale sales, posted declines.

The largest decrease came from the automotive products sector, which fell 22.9% to \$5.0 billion in January and accounted for approximately 80% of the total decline.

Sales of motor vehicles fell 30.0% to \$3.4 billion, its lowest level since August 1996. Weakness in consumer demand in both Canada and the United States were the main contributors to the decline.

Other sectors that declined included the building materials sector (-6.2%) and the machinery and electronic equipment sector (-2.8%).

Note to readers

Wholesale sales in volume terms are calculated by deflating current dollar values using import and industry product price indexes. Since many of the goods sold by wholesalers are imported, fluctuations in the value of the Canadian dollar can have an important influence on the prices of goods bought and sold by wholesalers.

The wholesale sales series in chained (2002) dollars is a chained Fisher volume index with 2002 as the reference year.

The largest increase in January occurred in the "other products" sector, which includes a wide range of wholesaling activity ranging from recycled metal, recycled paper and paperboard, stationery and office supplies, and other paper and disposable plastic products wholesalers, to agricultural feed and seed wholesalers and agricultural chemical and other farm supplies, chemical (except agricultural) and allied products, and all other wholesalers.

Sales in this sector increased 5.1% in January, following an 8.4% drop in December. The main contributors were increases by agricultural chemical and other farm supplies and seed wholesalers. This was the first increase in this sector since August 2008.

Automotive products sector down in Ontario

In Ontario, sales fell 9.7% in January, with more than half of the drop attributed to the decline in the automotive products sector. Weakness was also reported in the machinery and electronic equipment and building supplies sectors. Ontario wholesale sales, which account for around half of total wholesale sales, reached their lowest level since February 2004.

By contrast, increases occurred in Saskatchewan (+13.7%), where sales rose following losses the previous four months, and in Manitoba, which posted an increase of 5.6% in January. Higher sales in the "other products" sector were behind most of the increase in both provinces.

Inventories flat in January

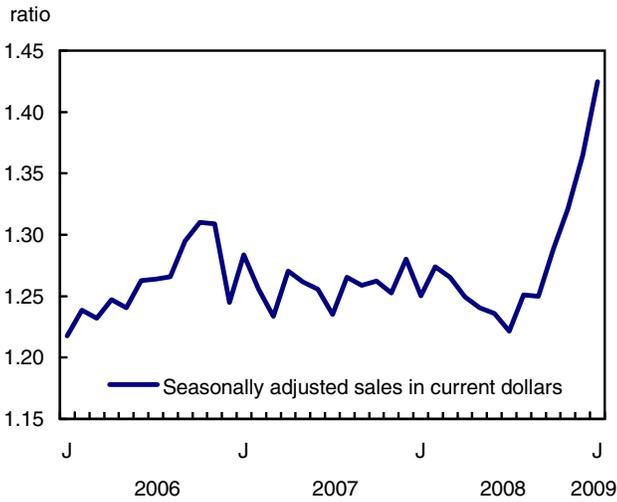
Inventories were essentially unchanged in January, following 10 months of increases.

In all, 10 of the 15 wholesale trade groups reported higher inventory levels, including apparel (+3.2%), and office and professional equipment (+1.3%).

These increases were offset by declines in inventories of motor vehicles (-5.3%), computer and other electronic equipment (-1.5%) and farm products (-5.3%).

The slowdown in sales and essentially unchanged inventories led to an increase in the inventory-to-sales ratio from 1.36 in December to 1.42 in January. This was the highest level since January 1996. The inventory-to-sales ratio is a measure of the time in months required to exhaust inventories if sales were to remain at their current level.

Inventory-to-sales ratio continues to increase



Available on CANSIM: tables 081-0007 to 081-0010.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.

The January 2009 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008-XWE, free) will soon be available.

Wholesale trade estimates for February will be released on April 21.

To obtain data, or for more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; wholesaleinfo@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Steve Chadder (613-951-0303; steve.chadder@statcan.gc.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

□

Wholesale merchants' inventories and inventory-to-sales ratio

| | January 2008 | October 2008 ^r | November 2008 ^r | December 2008 ^r | January 2009 ^p | December 2008 to January 2009 | January 2008 to January 2009 | December 2008 ^r | January 2009 ^p |
|---|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| | Wholesale inventories | | | | | Inventory-to-sales ratio | | | |
| | Seasonally adjusted | | | | | | | | |
| | \$ millions | | | | | % change | | | |
| Inventories | 54,207 | 57,862 | 58,509 | 58,569 | 58,580 | 0.0 | 8.1 | 1.36 | 1.42 |
| Farm products | 164 | 181 | 178 | 174 | 165 | -5.3 | 0.8 | 0.40 | 0.36 |
| Food products | 4,243 | 4,596 | 4,657 | 4,632 | 4,645 | 0.3 | 9.5 | 0.63 | 0.62 |
| Alcohol and tobacco | 350 | 376 | 383 | 373 | 377 | 1.2 | 7.7 | 0.53 | 0.56 |
| Apparel | 1,795 | 1,952 | 1,952 | 2,055 | 2,120 | 3.2 | 18.1 | 2.52 | 2.55 |
| Household and personal products | 4,019 | 4,197 | 4,144 | 4,099 | 4,104 | 0.1 | 2.1 | 1.53 | 1.56 |
| Pharmaceuticals | 3,566 | 3,849 | 4,021 | 4,121 | 4,152 | 0.7 | 16.4 | 1.26 | 1.26 |
| Motor vehicles | 4,513 | 4,523 | 4,414 | 4,304 | 4,077 | -5.3 | -9.7 | 0.89 | 1.21 |
| Motor vehicle parts and accessories | 3,190 | 3,293 | 3,378 | 3,390 | 3,390 | 0.0 | 6.3 | 2.04 | 2.09 |
| Building supplies | 5,995 | 6,142 | 6,233 | 6,315 | 6,334 | 0.3 | 5.7 | 1.68 | 1.78 |
| Metal products | 2,776 | 3,204 | 3,208 | 3,258 | 3,268 | 0.3 | 17.7 | 2.04 | 2.21 |
| Lumber and millwork | 1,112 | 1,193 | 1,173 | 1,117 | 1,107 | -0.8 | -0.4 | 1.37 | 1.47 |
| Machinery and equipment | 11,575 | 11,990 | 12,220 | 12,304 | 12,377 | 0.6 | 6.9 | 2.51 | 2.57 |
| Computer and other electronic equipment | 1,648 | 1,837 | 1,946 | 1,766 | 1,739 | -1.5 | 5.5 | 0.66 | 0.71 |
| Office and professional equipment | 2,655 | 2,874 | 2,879 | 2,906 | 2,945 | 1.3 | 10.9 | 1.39 | 1.39 |
| Other products | 6,607 | 7,653 | 7,724 | 7,754 | 7,779 | 0.3 | 17.7 | 1.46 | 1.40 |

^r revised

^p preliminary

Note: Figures may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Wholesale merchants' sales

| | January 2008 | October 2008 ^r | November 2008 ^r | December 2008 ^r | January 2009 ^p | December 2008 to January 2009 | January 2008 to January 2009 |
|---|-----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|---|--|
| Seasonally adjusted | | | | | | | |
| | \$ millions | | | | % change | | |
| Total, wholesale sales | 43,359 | 44,921 | 44,280 | 42,916 | 41,112 | -4.2 | -5.2 |
| Farm products | 429 | 460 | 490 | 441 | 458 | 3.8 | 6.7 |
| Food, beverages and tobacco products | 7,395 | 7,990 | 7,983 | 8,087 | 8,149 | 0.8 | 10.2 |
| Food products | 6,791 | 7,296 | 7,338 | 7,387 | 7,470 | 1.1 | 10.0 |
| Alcohol and tobacco | 604 | 694 | 645 | 700 | 679 | -3.0 | 12.3 |
| Personal and household goods | 6,723 | 6,721 | 6,739 | 6,771 | 6,757 | -0.2 | 0.5 |
| Apparel | 838 | 834 | 879 | 816 | 831 | 1.7 | -0.9 |
| Household and personal products | 2,748 | 2,674 | 2,620 | 2,681 | 2,639 | -1.6 | -4.0 |
| Pharmaceuticals | 3,137 | 3,214 | 3,240 | 3,274 | 3,288 | 0.4 | 4.8 |
| Automotive products | 7,327 | 6,857 | 6,685 | 6,471 | 4,986 | -22.9 | -31.9 |
| Motor vehicles | 5,807 | 5,197 | 5,058 | 4,811 | 3,366 | -30.0 | -42.0 |
| Motor vehicle parts and accessories | 1,520 | 1,660 | 1,626 | 1,660 | 1,620 | -2.4 | 6.6 |
| Building materials | 6,183 | 6,596 | 6,489 | 6,173 | 5,792 | -6.2 | -6.3 |
| Building supplies | 3,774 | 3,951 | 3,960 | 3,761 | 3,555 | -5.5 | -5.8 |
| Metal products | 1,431 | 1,707 | 1,638 | 1,595 | 1,482 | -7.1 | 3.5 |
| Lumber and millwork | 977 | 937 | 891 | 817 | 755 | -7.6 | -22.8 |
| Machinery and electronic equipment | 9,347 | 10,230 | 10,109 | 9,674 | 9,401 | -2.8 | 0.6 |
| Machinery and equipment | 4,601 | 5,279 | 5,211 | 4,907 | 4,824 | -1.7 | 4.8 |
| Computer and other electronic equipment | 2,698 | 2,829 | 2,795 | 2,680 | 2,459 | -8.2 | -8.9 |
| Office and professional equipment | 2,048 | 2,122 | 2,104 | 2,087 | 2,119 | 1.5 | 3.5 |
| Other products | 5,956 | 6,067 | 5,785 | 5,299 | 5,569 | 5.1 | -6.5 |
| Total, excluding automobiles | 36,033 | 38,064 | 37,595 | 36,445 | 36,126 | -0.9 | 0.3 |
| Sales, province and territory | | | | | | | |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 254 | 292 | 290 | 277 | 281 | 1.2 | 10.2 |
| Prince Edward Island | 38 | 43 | 46 | 39 | 39 | -0.2 | 2.2 |
| Nova Scotia | 573 | 612 | 600 | 583 | 579 | -0.6 | 1.0 |
| New Brunswick | 428 | 456 | 446 | 433 | 444 | 2.5 | 3.8 |
| Quebec | 8,086 | 8,543 | 8,389 | 8,167 | 8,167 | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| Ontario | 21,746 | 21,570 | 21,323 | 21,116 | 19,061 | -9.7 | -12.3 |
| Manitoba | 1,101 | 1,043 | 1,037 | 1,005 | 1,061 | 5.6 | -3.6 |
| Saskatchewan | 1,455 | 1,783 | 1,761 | 1,496 | 1,701 | 13.7 | 16.9 |
| Alberta | 5,264 | 6,065 | 5,919 | 5,558 | 5,526 | -0.6 | 5.0 |
| British Columbia | 4,348 | 4,448 | 4,404 | 4,159 | 4,174 | 0.4 | -4.0 |
| Yukon | 12 | 12 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 5.6 | -6.9 |
| Northwest Territories | 50 | 50 | 54 | 55 | 61 | 11.6 | 21.6 |
| Nunavut | 3 | 4 | 2 | 17 | 6 | -65.7 | 113.0 |

^r revised

^p preliminary

Note: Figures may not add up to totals due to rounding.

Study: Cancer prevalence in the Canadian population

As of January 1, 2005

Because of increases in the detection of cancer and improving survival, the number of Canadians living with cancer is rising.

Of all persons living in Canada on January 1, 2005, 695,000 had been diagnosed with an invasive cancer at some point in the previous 10 years. Some individuals experienced more than one invasive cancer over the 10-year period, with the number of cancer cases totalling 723,000.

The most common cancers were breast, prostate and colorectal cancer, which together accounted for just over half of all cases on January 1, 2005, that had been diagnosed in the previous decade.

The 695,000 people who had been diagnosed with cancer during the 10-year period represented 2.2% of the Canadian population, or about 1 in 46 people. Overall, 1 in 111 women had been diagnosed with breast cancer, and 1 in 118 men had been diagnosed with prostate cancer.

About one-fifth (20.5%) of all cases in the population were breast cancer, and 18.7% were prostate cancer. These two cancers were the most common owing not only to the relatively high numbers of cases diagnosed, but also to favourable survival rates.

Colorectal cancer was the third most common, at 12.9%. It was followed by lung cancer (5.1%), bladder cancer (5.0%), non-Hodgkin lymphoma (4.1%) and skin melanoma (4.1%).

Among men still living on January 1, 2005, prostate cancer accounted for the largest share of cases diagnosed within the 10-year period (38.2%). The next most common were colorectal cancer (14.0%), bladder cancer (7.5%) and lung cancer (5.4%). Among women still alive, the corresponding most common cancers were breast, accounting for 40.0% of cases, colorectal (11.9%), uterine (7.2%) and lung (4.9%).

The most prevalent cancer in people aged 20 to 39 was thyroid. The most common cancer in the age groups 40 to 49 and 50 to 59 was breast. And the most common cancer in the older age groups 60 to 69, 70 to 79, and 80 or older was prostate.

Prevalence of cancer increases with age

The percentage of Canadians living with a diagnosis of cancer rose sharply with age, peaking at 80 to 84. However, the patterns of increase differed between the sexes.

The percentage was higher in women than in men before age 60. Thereafter, the percentage in men

Note to readers

This article in Health Reports presents the most precise and specific estimates of the number of Canadians living with cancer reported to date. It also provides estimates for a much more extensive list of cancers than has previously been available.

Data tabulated by type of cancer, age, sex and time since diagnosis provide important information about the demand for cancer-related health care and social services.

The article is based on data from the Canadian Cancer Registry, linked with mortality data from the Canadian Vital Statistics Death Database.

Cancer prevalence can be defined as the number of previously diagnosed cases of cancer among people still alive.

surpassed that for women, mostly because of a sharp rise in prostate cancer, and increased much more rapidly in men than in women.

Differences between the sexes in the percentage of people with cancer were attributable to differences in the number of cancers diagnosed and survival.

The prevalence of most cancers increased with age. Exceptions were testicular cancer among men, cervical and thyroid cancer among women, and Hodgkin lymphoma and brain cancer among both sexes.

Some cancers more common among young people

Some cancers were more common among young people. For testicular cancer and Hodgkin lymphoma, the percentages of people who had been diagnosed from 2000 through 2004, and were still alive on January 1, 2005, were highest in young adults aged 20 to 39. The decrease with age was statistically significant.

Cervical cancer and cancer of the thyroid were most common in women in the 40-to-49 age group. Both of these cancers declined at older ages.

Time since diagnosis a good indicator

As noted by cancer researchers in other countries, estimates of the prevalence of cancers diagnosed within 2, 5 and 10 years are useful for resource allocation and cancer care planning.

Just over 217,000 cancers had been diagnosed in the two-year period 2003 and 2004 among people who were still alive on January 1, 2005. People in the first or second year post-diagnosis are generally at a stage of the disease when they are undergoing primary treatment or recovering from its effects.

In the period from two to five years since diagnosis, a time requiring close clinical follow-up for recurrence, just over 237,000 cancers had been diagnosed in people still alive on January 1, 2005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3207 and 3233.

The article, "Cancer prevalence in the Canadian population," which is part of today's *Health Reports* (82-003-XWE, free) online release, is now available from the *Publications* module of our website. For more information about this article, contact Larry F. Ellison (613-951-5244; larry.ellison@statcan.gc.ca), Health Statistics Division, or Kathryn Wilkins (613-951-1769; kathryn.wilkins@statcan.gc.ca), Health Information and Research Division.

Today's online release of *Health Reports* also includes "Medication use among senior Canadians." This article examines patterns in the use of prescription medications, over-the-counter products

and alternative medicines by seniors living in private households and in institutions, based on information from the 1996/1997 and 1998/1999 National Population Health Survey. For more information, contact Pamela L. Ramage-Morin (613-951-1760; pamela.ramage-morin@statcan.gc.ca), Health Information and Research Division.

The complete version of the latest issue of *Health Reports*, Vol. 20, no. 1 (82-003-XWE, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website. A printed version (82-003-XPE, \$24/\$68) is also available. See *How to order products*.

For more information about *Health Reports*, contact Christine Wright (613-951-1765; christine.wright@statcan.gc.ca), Health Information and Research Division. ■

Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products

November 2008

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 November.

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

Stocks of frozen poultry meat

March 1, 2009 (preliminary)

Stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on March 1 totalled 67 654 metric tonnes, up 5.2% from the same day a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0023 and 003-0024.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3425.

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) or Sandra Venturino (613-951-9278; sandra.venturino@statcan.gc.ca), or Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991), Agriculture Division. ■

New products

Perspectives on Labour and Income, Spring 2009,
Vol. 21, no. 1
Catalogue number 75-001-XPE (\$20/\$63).

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

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