

The Daily

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Railway carloadings

May 2009

The Canadian railway industry loaded 19.1 million metric tonnes in May, down 21.4% from the same month in 2008.

The drop in tonnage was the result of decreased freight loadings in both non-intermodal and intermodal railway transportation systems.

Compared with May last year, non-intermodal loadings fell 22.0% to 17.0 million metric tonnes in May. The decline was widespread, as the majority of commodity groups registered decreased activity. Among the commodity groups with the largest declines in tonnage were potash, coal, iron ore and concentrates, iron and steel (primary or semi-finished), lumber and other cereal grains.

Although overall non-intermodal loadings fell in May, a number of commodity groups saw strong gains in tonnage loaded, including wheat, colza seeds (canola) and fresh, chilled or dried vegetables.

Intermodal loadings declined 16.4% from May 2008 to 2.1 million metric tonnes. The drop stemmed from declines in both containers and trailers loaded onto flat cars.

Rail freight traffic coming from the United States fell 29.4% from May 2008 to 2.0 million metric tonnes.

Available on CANSIM: table 404-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2732.

The May 2009 issue of *Monthly Railway Carloadings*, Vol. 86, no. 5 (52-001-X, free), is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Dissemination Unit (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; fax: 613-951-0009; transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Spending on industrial research and development

2009 (preliminary)

In total, businesses anticipated their spending (in current dollars) on industrial research and development (R&D) to reach \$16.1 billion in 2009, essentially unchanged from the previous two years.

Firms in the information and communications technologies sector anticipated total R&D expenditures of \$6.2 billion, or 38.5% of the total in 2009. Businesses performing R&D related to pharmaceuticals and medicine anticipated investments of \$1.7 billion, or 10.3% of the total. Both proportions are in line with historical levels.

Note: Also available are data on revised intentions for 2008. Preliminary actual data are available for 2007 on employment in R&D, the nature of R&D activities and industrial spending distributed by provinces.

Spending intentions for 2008 and 2009 are preliminary indications of the direction of R&D investment intentions. They do not represent absolute values of R&D spending, and should therefore be used with caution. In response to the global economic downturn, survey respondents may have adjusted their R&D spending for the last two quarters of 2008 and for all of 2009 after providing their intentions.

In addition, estimates of R&D spending for 2007 represent the latest year of actual spending data in the time series released today. However, these data will be revised when Statistics Canada has received processed tax credit forms for scientific research and experimental development outstanding at the time these estimates were finalized or revised after audit by the Canada Revenue Agency.

Available on CANSIM: table 358-0024.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4201.

The article, "Industrial research and development, 2005 to 2009," is now available in the service bulletin *Science Statistics*, Vol. 33, no. 4 (88-001-X, free), from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Robert Schellings (613-951-6675; robert.schellings@statcan.gc.ca) or Louise Earl (613-951-2880; louise.earl@statcan.gc.ca), Business Special Surveys and Technology Statistics Division. ■

Placement of hatchery chicks and turkey poults

June 2009 (preliminary)

Placements of hatchery chicks on farms totalled 58.2 million birds in June, down 2.1% from June 2008. Placements of turkey poults on farms decreased 12.1 % to 2.0 million birds.

Available on CANSIM: table 003-0021.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5039.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandra Venturino (613-951-9278; sandra.venturino@statcan.gc.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation

June 2009

Data on mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation are now available for June.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2110.

Data are available upon request only. 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. ■

Asphalt roofing

June 2009

Data on asphalt roofing are now available for June.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0052.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2123.

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. ■

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