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Releases

Releases

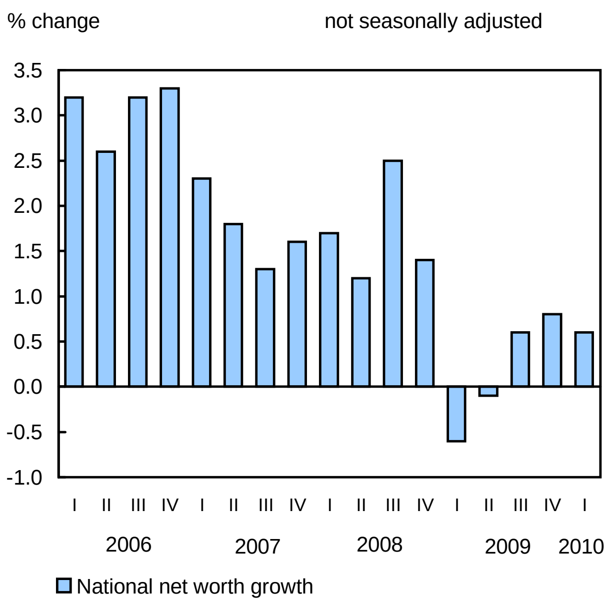
National balance sheet accounts

First quarter 2010

National net worth edged up 0.6% (over $38 billion) to $6.2 trillion in the first quarter, reflecting a 1.2% increase in non-financial assets, particularly non-residential structures and land. The moderate advance in national wealth was partially offset by increased net foreign debt.

On a per capita basis, national net worth reached $181,500 in the first quarter, up from $180,900 in the previous quarter.

National net worth continues to grow



The increase in net foreign debt in the first quarter reflected a downward revaluation of foreign assets and liabilities, resulting from the appreciation of the Canadian dollar as well as from the continued current account deficit.

Note to readers

The National Balance Sheet Accounts (NBSA) comprise the balance sheets of all sectors of the economy: the persons and unincorporated business (households), corporate, government, and non-resident sectors. They cover all national non-financial assets and financial claims and their associated liabilities outstanding in all sectors.

National net worth is national wealth less net foreign liabilities (i.e., what is owed to non-residents less what non-residents owe to Canadians). Alternatively, it is the sum of the net worth of the persons and unincorporated business, corporate, and government sectors.

Household credit market debt comprises consumer credit, mortgage, and loan debt of households, non-profit institutions serving households, and unincorporated businesses.

Corporate equity is treated as a liability on the balance sheet of the corporate sector since it represents a claim by shareholders on the corporate sector. As a result, as equity prices increase, corporate net worth will tend to decline, reflecting the increase in the corporate sector's equity liabilities.

Quarterly series, at both book and market value, are available from the first quarter of 1990. Marketable securities are at market value, unless otherwise stated. For more information on the market value estimates, consult the National Balance Sheet estimates at market value *page of our website.*

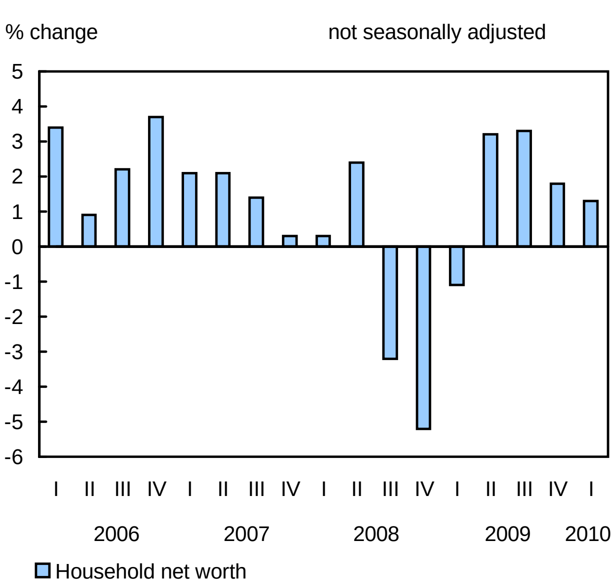
As of the release of the NBSA for the third quarter of 2009, a number of sectors and categories that were previously published have been combined, in order to provide more relevant sector and category information.

Market value estimates in the NBSA on annual and quarterly bases have been expanded. Annual market value data are published for all sectors from 1970, while book value estimates remain available from 1961. Quarterly data are available for all sectors from the first quarter of 1990 for market and book value estimates. The release of these estimates will facilitate international comparisons with other countries.

Household net worth growth slows

Household net worth was up 1.3% (or $74 billion) to $6.0 trillion, as the increase in the value of assets exceeded the increase in liabilities. This follows a 1.8% advance in the previous quarter. Gains in the value of financial assets, especially equities, as well as increases in residential real estate contributed to the advance in net worth.

Household net worth growth slows



The Standard and Poor's / Toronto Stock Exchange composite index rose almost 2.5%, continuing the positive trend started in the second quarter of 2009. This was reflected in the growth in value of equity holdings of households, which have risen over the last three quarters.

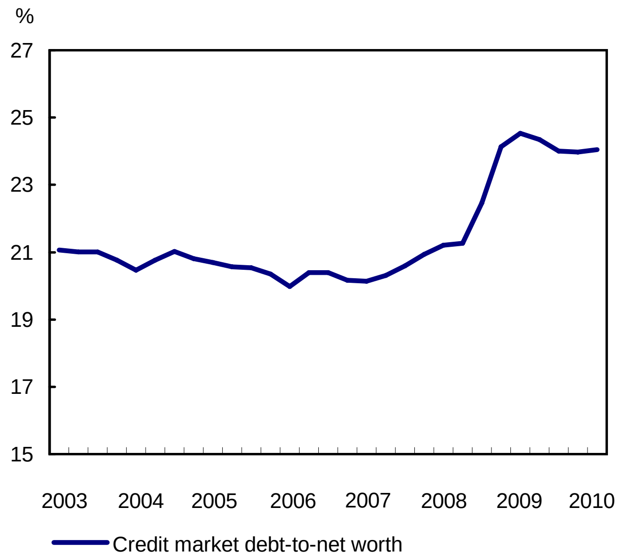
Household debt, particularly mortgages, increased, a trend reflecting continuing strength in the real estate market. Consumer credit growth decelerated, reflecting the slowdown in demand for durable goods.

The ratio of household credit market debt-to-income rose to 147.0% from 144.9% in the fourth quarter of 2009. However, household credit market debt-to-net worth has remained largely unchanged since the fourth quarter of 2008.

Borrowing costs increased slightly in the first quarter. The five-year conventional mortgage rate rose to 5.85% from 5.49% in the fourth quarter of 2009. Despite the moderate rise in interest rates and increased borrowing, the household debt-service ratio has remained stable for the last four quarters.

Owner's equity as a percentage of real estate assets edged down to 67.8% in the first quarter of 2010 from 68.0% in the previous quarter, continuing its downward trend from the second quarter of 2008.

Household credit market debt-to-net worth remains stable



Government debt continues to grow

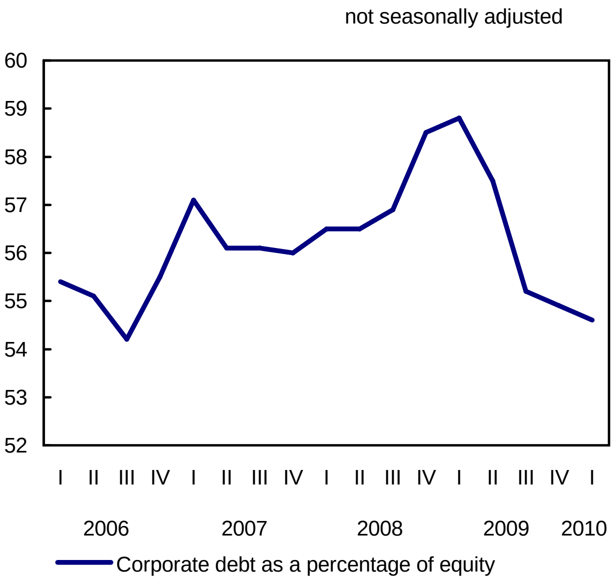
Total government debt (at book value) rose 2.1% to $1.7 trillion. Borrowing by all levels of government rose as bond issuance increased, particularly by the federal government. The federal government retired short-term debt, offsetting some of the increase in borrowing through bond issuance.

Expressed at book value, overall government net debt as a percentage of gross domestic product increased to 44.1% in the first quarter from 43.5% in the previous quarter, continuing the upward trend started in the fourth quarter of 2008.

Corporate debt to equity edges down

Non-financial corporations' credit market debt-to-equity ratio (at book value) dropped slightly in the first quarter. Compared with the fourth quarter of 2009, bond issuances of non-financial corporations recorded a smaller increase. Debt financing by way of non-mortgage loans increased for the second consecutive quarter, after steady declines that started in the first quarter of 2009.

Corporate debt to equity edges down



Pension plans and mutual funds increase investment

Institutional investors, such as trusteed pension plans and mutual funds, increased their overall investment in marketable securities, notably shares, and federal bonds. Holdings of mortgages and equities by financial institutions continued to advance, albeit at a slower pace than in the previous quarter.

Available on CANSIM: tables 378-0012 to 378-0014 and 378-0049 to 378-0116.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1806.

The *National economic accounts* module, accessible from the *Key resource* module of our website, features an up-to-date portrait of national and provincial economies and their structure.

The first quarter 2010 *National Balance Sheet Accounts: Data Tables*, Vol. 3, no. 1 (13-022-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the information officer (613-951-3640; *iead-info-dcrd@statcan.gc.ca*), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

Corporate sector indicators

	Fourth quarter 2008	First quarter 2009	Second quarter 2009	Third quarter 2009	Fourth quarter 2009	First quarter 2010
	Market value, not seasonally adjusted					
Corporate sector						
Net new issuance of debt, non-financial corporations ($ billions)	17	4	6	-1	-1	7
Net new issuance of debt, financial corporations ($ billions)	52	19	14	10	9	-1
Net new issuance of share equity, non-financial corporations ($ billions)	1	5	8	18	8	7
Private non-financial corporations total debt to equity (%)	183.40	183.03	176.32	171.78	169.91	169.80
Private non-financial corporations credit market debt to equity (book value) (%)	58.55	58.76	57.51	55.18	54.94	54.62

National balance sheet accounts

	Fourth quarter 2008	First quarter 2009	Second quarter 2009	Third quarter 2009	Fourth quarter 2009	First quarter 2010	Fourth quarter 2009 to first quarter 2010
	Market value, not seasonally adjusted						
	$ billions						change in billions of dollars
National net worth[1]	**6,094**	**6,055**	**6,050**	**6,087**	**6,137**	**6,176**	**38**
	1.4	**-0.6**	**-0.1**	**0.6**	**0.8**	**0.6**	
National wealth[1]	6,105	6,095	6,125	6,200	6,269	6,344	75
	0.6	-0.2	0.5	1.2	1.1	1.2	
Net foreign debt	-11	-40	-76	-113	-132	-168	-36
National net worth, by sector							
Household sector	5,497	5,437	5,608	5,792	5,895	5,969	74
Corporate sector	598	638	458	317	271	230	-41
Government sector	-2	-20	-17	-22	-29	-24	5
	$						change in dollars
National net worth per capita	**181,800**	**180,100**	**179,300**	**179,700**	**180,900**	**181,500**	**600**

1. *The first line is the series itself expressed in billions of dollars. The second line is the period-to-period percentage change.*
Note: *Data may not add to totals as a result of rounding.*

Government sector indicators

	Fourth quarter 2008	First quarter 2009	Second quarter 2009	Third quarter 2009	Fourth quarter 2009	First quarter 2010
	Market value, not seasonally adjusted					
Government sector						
Net new issuance of debt, federal government ($ billions)	55	48	9	25	4	13
Net new issuance of debt, other levels of government ($ billions)	12	-3	22	2	23	4
Total government gross debt (book value) - ($ billions)	1,498	1,557	1,579	1,616	1,643	1,678
Federal government gross debt (book value) - ($ billions)	674	732	737	769	775	796
Other levels of government gross debt (book value) - ($ billions)	817	819	839	844	865	870
Total government net debt (book value) - ($ billions)	-583	-608	-625	-645	-664	-683
Federal government net debt (book value) - ($ billions)	-466	-481	-499	-513	-518	-534
Other levels of government net debt (book value) - ($ billions)	-259	-271	-281	-289	-302	-309
Total government net debt (book value) to gross domestic product (%)	36.46	38.33	40.07	42.16	43.46	44.12
Federal government net debt (book value) to gross domestic (%)	29.16	30.32	32.00	33.51	33.95	34.53
Other levels of government net debt (book value) to gross domestic product (%)	16.20	17.07	17.99	18.90	19.75	19.99

Household sector indicators

	Fourth quarter 2008	First quarter 2009	Second quarter 2009	Third quarter 2009	Fourth quarter 2009	First quarter 2010
	Market value, not seasonally adjusted					
Household sector						
Net worth						
Household net worth per capita ($)	164,000	161,700	166,200	171,000	173,700	175,500
Net worth as a percentage of personal disposable income (%)	578.97	569.69	584.27	602.29	610.48	614.14
Total assets to net worth (%)	124.47	124.87	124.70	124.35	124.31	124.37
Financial assets to net worth (%)	66.50	66.73	68.02	68.73	68.91	69.24
Financial assets to non-financial assets (%)	114.71	114.78	120.02	123.60	124.37	125.60
Owner's equity as a percentage of real estate (%)	69.27	68.91	68.36	68.17	68.02	67.75
Real estate as a percentage of personal disposable income (%)	289.71	286.34	286.09	289.44	292.22	293.11
Debt						
Household debt ($ billions)	1,345	1,352	1,385	1,410	1,433	1,455
Household debt per capita ($)	40,100	40,200	41,000	41,600	42,200	42,800
Credit market debt ($ billions)	1,327	1,334	1,365	1,390	1,413	1,435
Debt to personal disposible income (%)	140.52	142.67	144.12	145.70	146.97	148.94
Credit market debt to personal disposible income (%)	138.57	140.83	142.08	143.84	144.94	146.97
Consumer credit and mortgage liabilities to personal disposable income (%)	126.64	128.87	130.34	132.34	133.72	135.74
Debt to total assets (%)	19.66	19.92	19.80	19.58	19.56	19.59
Debt to net worth (%)	24.47	24.87	24.70	24.35	24.31	24.37
Credit market debt to net worth (%)	24.13	24.53	24.34	24.00	23.97	24.04
Consumer credit and mortgage liabilities to net worth (%)	22.06	22.46	22.33	22.09	22.12	22.18
Debt to gross domestic product (%)	84.11	85.23	88.77	92.20	93.83	94.01

■

Employment Insurance Coverage Survey

2009

Among the 1.04 million unemployed individuals who contributed to the Employment Insurance (EI) program in 2009, 857,000 had a recent job separation that met the EI program criteria. Of those, 739,000 or 86.2% were eligible to receive regular EI benefits because they worked enough hours, up from 82.2% in 2008.

The remainder of EI contributors with a valid job separation, roughly 118,000 or 13.8%, did not have enough insurable hours to qualify for benefits based on the region they lived in. This was the lowest proportion in more than six years.

In addition to the 857,000 contributors who had a valid job separation, there were another 185,000 unemployed EI contributors who had left their job for a reason not deemed valid by the EI program.

The 1.04 million unemployed individuals who contributed to the EI program in 2009 was an increase from 767,000 a year earlier. Despite this increase, the overall share of unemployed EI contributors-to-unemployed was 70.3%, little changed over the past seven years. The remaining 29.7% of unemployed individuals were non-contributors.

There are two main reasons for being EI non-contributors and therefore not eligible for regular EI benefits: non-insurable employment (that is, self-employed) or not having worked in the previous 12 months. Both the share of non-contributors and the reasons for non-contribution have been very similar from 2003 to 2009.

During much of 2009, the labour market underwent a downturn. As a result, the unemployment rate rose from 6.1% in 2008 to 8.3% in 2009. On average, there were 1.5 million unemployed in Canada in 2009. Groups that were particularly affected included men aged 25 to 54, young people aged 15 to 24, and workers in Ontario and Alberta.

Note to readers

The Employment Insurance Coverage Survey sheds light on the coverage of the Employment Insurance (EI) program. It provides a picture of who does or does not have access to EI benefits as well as maternity, parental and adoption benefits.

To be potentially eligible to receive regular benefits, unemployed individuals have to contribute to the EI program and must meet the criteria for job separation. Job separations that are deemed invalid include quitting the job voluntarily (including to go to school), illness or disability, pregnancy, other family related issues, dissatisfaction with the job, and retirement. Contributors to the EI program with valid job separations who have accumulated enough hours are eligible to receive regular EI benefits.

The number of insured hours required to qualify for regular benefits vary across regions in Canada, ranging from 420 to 700 hours, depending on the unemployment rate of that region. The higher the unemployment rate, the lower the number of hours required to qualify for benefits. In addition, hours required are higher for workers who have entered the labour market for the first time and those who have limited work experience in the last two years.

The survey is administered to a sub-sample of respondents of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) four times a year, namely in April, July, November and January. The respondents are asked questions about their situation during the LFS reference week in the month prior to being interviewed (March, June, October and December respectively).

In 2009, the total sample size was 11,824 people, composed of unemployed individuals (as defined by the LFS) and other individuals who, given their recent status in the labour market, were potentially eligible for EI. This sample included 2,576 respondents who were unemployed during the LFS reference week. In addition, 1,195 women who had a child of less than one year old were interviewed.

The survey is conducted on behalf of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada.

EI eligibility up for both men and women

Of the unemployed individuals who had contributed to the EI program and had a valid job separation in 2009, 558,000 or 65.1% were men. In 2009, 87.3% of these contributors were eligible for regular benefits, up from 84.6% in 2008. Of the 299,000 unemployed women who were contributors with a valid job separation, 84.3% were eligible for EI benefits in 2009, an increase from 77.8% a year earlier.

Compared with men, there was a higher share of women who had quit their job for a reason which deemed them unable to collect regular benefits, and a slightly higher share of women had not accumulated enough insurable hours.

Nearly one-third of unemployed women (32.5%) did not contribute to EI, compared with 28.0% of their male counterparts. The proportion for women was slightly higher mainly because they were more likely not to have had paid employment in the previous 12 months.

Having enough insurable hours was least prevalent among youth

In 2009, 62.8% of people aged 15 to 24 who had a valid job separation were eligible to receive regular EI benefits, much lower than those aged 25 to 44 or aged 45 and older. This was because relatively fewer youth had accumulated enough insurable hours. Despite this, their eligibility rate in 2009 was up from 51.9% in 2008.

Compared with other age groups, a higher share of youths had an invalid job separation and were therefore ineligible for EI. This was because many of these youths had quit work to go back to school.

In 2009, over one-third (36.8%) of unemployed youth had not contributed to the EI program at all, primarily because many had not worked for paid employment in the previous 12 months.

EI eligibility up in most provinces

Between 2008 and 2009, the share of unemployed contributors with a valid job separation increased in all provinces except Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia. Rates in 2009 ranged from 83.1% in Ontario to 94.9% in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Two western provinces, Alberta (27.7%) and Manitoba (27.1%), had the highest proportions of unemployed contributors to EI who had invalid job separations (that is, quit to go back to school or quit for other reasons). This group was therefore not eligible for benefits. In contrast, the Atlantic provinces had the lowest proportions of unemployed contributors with invalid job separations.

In 2009, over one-third (35.8%) of unemployed people in Ontario did not contribute to the EI program, the highest share among all provinces. The large majority of these non-contributors had not worked in the previous 12 months.

Maternity and parental benefits

At the national level, coverage and eligibility of mothers for maternity or parental benefits has varied little from 2003 to 2009.

In 2009, 76.2% of all recent mothers (with a child aged 12 months or less) had insurable employment; among these insured mothers, 88.0% were receiving maternity or parental benefits. Both rates were essentially unchanged from 2008 (77.0% and 88.1%, respectively).

Quebec, which has the Quebec Parental Insurance Plan (QPIP), had the highest share of recent mothers with insurable employment (81.5%) and the highest share of insurable recent mothers receiving maternity or parental benefits (94.7%).

The QPIP, which was introduced in 2006, continued to have a major impact on the number of fathers who claimed or intended to claim parental benefits. It included leave that applied exclusively to fathers. The proportion of fathers in Quebec who took or intended to take parental leave has nearly tripled since the introduction of the plan.

Taking all provinces into account, the share of recent fathers taking parental leave in 2009 was 30.1%, up slightly from 28.2% a year earlier.

In Quebec, 79.1% of fathers took advantage of the plan, compared with 74.9% in 2008. Prior to the plan's introduction, 27.8% of Quebec fathers took parental leave in 2005.

Outside Quebec, 12.8% of recent fathers took or intended to take parental leave in 2009, compared with 10.4% in 2008.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4428.

For general information, or to order data, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-461-9050; 613-951-3321; fax: 613-951-4527; *ssd@statcan.gc.ca*), Special Surveys Division. To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jason Gilmore (613-951-7118; *jason.gilmore@statcan.gc.ca*), Labour Statistics Division.

Coverage and eligibility of the unemployed for Employment Insurance benefits, 2009

	Number	Unemployed	Contributors	Contributors with valid job separation
	thousands	%		
Unemployed	**1,483**	**100.0**	**...**	**...**
Contributors	**1,042**	**70.3**	**100.0**	**...**
Contributors, valid job separation	857	57.8	82.3	100.0
Eligible contributors	739	49.8	70.9	86.2
Not eligible due to not enough insurable hours	118	8.0	11.3	13.8
Contributors, invalid job separation	185	12.5	17.7	...
Invalid job separation: quit to go back to school	86	5.8	8.2	...
Invalid job separation: other reasons deemed invalid	99	6.7	9.5	...
Non-contributors	**441**	**29.7**	**...**	**...**
Had no insurable employment	73	4.9	...	...
Had not worked in previous 12 months	368	24.8	...	...

... *not applicable*

Coverage and eligibility of the unemployed for Employment Insurance benefits by sex, 2009

	Number	Unemployed	Contributors	Contributors with valid job separation
	thousands	%		
Men				
Unemployed	**920**	**100.0**	**...**	**...**
Contributors	**662**	**72.0**	**100.0**	**...**
Contributors, valid job separation	558	60.7	84.4	100.0
Eligible contributors	488	53.0	73.6	87.3
Not eligible due to not enough insurable hours	71	7.7	10.7	12.7
Contributors, invalid job separation	104	11.3	15.6	...
Invalid job separation: quit to go back to school	52	5.6	7.8	...
Invalid job separation: other reasons deemed invalid	52	5.6	7.8	...
Non-contributors	**258**	**28.0**	**...**	**...**
Had no insurable employment	47	5.1	...	...
Had not worked in previous 12 months	211	22.9	...	...
Women				
Unemployed	**563**	**100.0**	**...**	**...**
Contributors	**380**	**67.5**	**100.0**	...
Contributors, valid job separation	299	53.1	78.6	100.0
Eligible contributors	252	44.7	66.2	84.3
Not eligible due to not enough insurable hours	47	8.3	12.4	15.7
Contributors, invalid job separation	81	14.4	21.4	...
Invalid job separation: quit to go back to school	34	6.0	8.9E	...
Invalid job separation: other reasons deemed invalid	47	8.4	12.4	...
Non-contributors	**183**	**32.5**	**...**	**...**
Had no insurable employment	26	4.7E	...	...
Had not worked in previous 12 months	157	27.9	...	...

... not applicable
E coefficient of variation between 16.5% and 33.3%; interpret with caution

Coverage and eligibility of the unemployed for Employment Insurance benefits, by province, 2009

	Unemployed	Contributors	Contributors, valid job separation	Contributors, invalid job separation	Non-contributors	Share of contributors with valid job separation who had sufficient hours to qualify
	thousands					%
Newfoundland and Labrador	41	35	33	2E	6E	94.9
Prince Edward Island	9E	F	F	F	F	88.9
Nova Scotia	42	32	30	3E	9	93.7
New Brunswick	34	29	26	3E	F	89.9
Quebec	343	246	207	39	97	87.1
Ontario	633	406	332	74	227	83.1
Manitoba	32	24	18	7E	8E	85.0
Saskatchewan	26	21	17	4E	5E	85.7
Alberta	128	105	76	29	23	89.3
British Columbia	194	134	110	23E	60	86.6

E coefficient of variation between 16.5% and 33.3%; interpret with caution
F coefficient of variation over 33.3% and/or small sample size; too unreliable to be published

Investment in new housing construction
April 2010

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

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 Bechir Oueriemmi (613-951-1165; *bdp_information@statcan.gc.ca*), Investment and Capital Stock Division. ■

Supply and disposition of refined petroleum products
March 2010

Data on the supply and disposition of refined petroleum products are now available for March.

Available on CANSIM: tables 134-0001 to 134-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

The March 2010 issue of *The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada*, Vol. 65, no. 3 (45-004-X, free), is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

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. ■

Primary iron and steel
April 2010

Data on primary iron and steel are now available for April.

Available on CANSIM: tables 303-0048 to 303-0051.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2116 and 2184.

The April 2010 issue of *Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire* (41-019-X, free) will soon be available.

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. ■

Steel pipe and tubing
April 2010

Data on the production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing are now available for April.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0046.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2105.

The April 2010 issue of *Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire* (41-019-X, free) will soon be available.

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. ■

New products and studies

Canadian Economic Accounts Quarterly Review, First quarter 2010, Vol. 9, no. 1
Catalogue number 13-010-X (HTML, free)

National Balance Sheet Accounts: Data Tables, First quarter 2010, Vol. 3, no. 1
Catalogue number 13-022-X (HTML, free)

The Supply and Disposition of Refined Petroleum Products in Canada, March 2010, Vol. 65, no. 3
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Canada's International Transactions in Securities, April 2010, Vol. 76, no. 4
Catalogue number 67-002-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

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