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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, January 31, 2006
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Releases

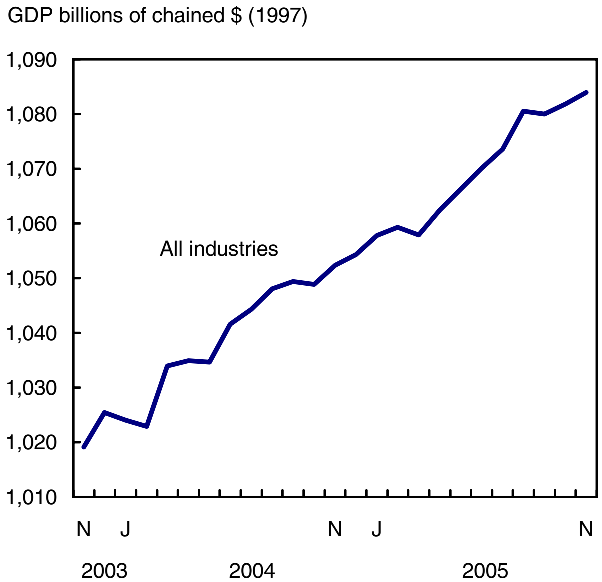
Releases

Gross domestic product by industry

November 2005

The Canadian economy expanded by 0.2% in both October and November. The strength in the services industries more than offset a decrease in goods production. Growth was concentrated in retail trade, notably from vigorous sales of new motor vehicles, as well as in construction activities, and in tourism-related industries. Despite sporadic strikes by Quebec teachers, educational services also contributed to the growth as British Columbia teachers resumed work after walking out in October. Declines among wholesalers and manufacturers of motor vehicles, as well as in forestry and electric generation contributed to offset part of the gains.

Economic activity continues to grow



Industrial production (the output of Canada's factories, mines and utilities) retreated by 0.2% in November. The strength in the mining, oil and gas sector (+0.4%) was more than offset by declines in manufacturing (-0.3%) and utilities (-0.6%). In the United States, industrial production grew 0.8%, pushed up by manufacturing, utilities and mining.

Note to readers

The monthly gross domestic product (GDP) by industry data are chained volume estimates with 1997 as their reference year. This means that the estimates for each industry and aggregate are obtained from a chained volume index multiplied by the industry's value added in 1997. For the period 1997 to 2002, the monthly estimates are benchmarked to annually chained Fisher volume indexes of GDP obtained from the constant-price input-output tables. For the period starting with January 2003, the estimates are derived by chaining a Laspeyres volume index at 2002 prices to the prior period. This makes the monthly GDP by industry estimates more comparable with the expenditure-based GDP data, chained quarterly. For more information, see the Chain Fisher Volume Index page on our Web site.

Revisions

With this release of monthly GDP by industry, revisions have been made back to January 2005.

Strength in auto retailers largely offset by weakness in wholesale of motor vehicles

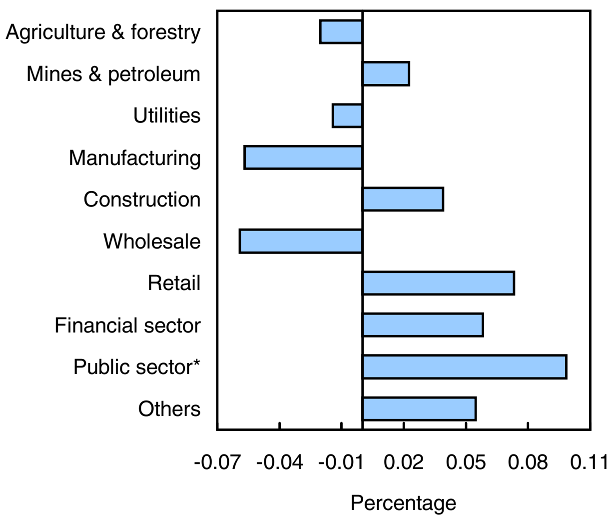
For a second consecutive month, new motor vehicle dealers' sales increased sharply in November. The retail trade sector grew 1.3% largely on that strength, as retailing activities excluding motor vehicles rose 0.6% with the largest gains recorded by clothing stores, supermarkets and home and hardware centres.

Following three consecutive months of growth, wholesale trade fell 1.0% in November, pulled down by a sharp drop in wholesaling of motor vehicles. Wholesalers of computers and other electronic equipment and of farm products also recorded significant declines. Excluding motor vehicles and parts, wholesale trade edged up 0.1% mostly from sales of household and personal goods, building supplies, and machinery and equipment.

Engineering works continue to stimulate construction activity

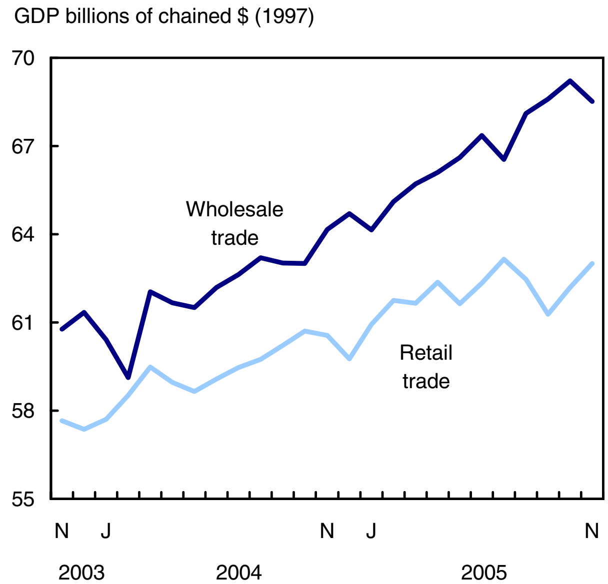
Construction activity rose 0.7% in November. Non-residential building construction (+0.5%) and engineering, repairs and other construction activities (+1.0%) continued to be the source of growth in that sector. All types of non-residential buildings (commercial, institutional and industrial) grew.

Main industrial sectors' contribution to total growth



* Education, health and public administration.

Motor vehicles steer wholesale and retail activities



Residential construction gained 0.2%, after slipping for three consecutive months. Housing starts in urban areas regained momentum except in the Atlantic region. Sales of existing homes increased markedly in most major metropolitan areas, except in Montréal and Vancouver, helping real estate agents and brokers to raise their output 0.2%.

Energy sector edges down while mining recovers

The energy sector edged down 0.2% in November. The decline in output was driven by the generation of electricity (-0.9%) and lower oil and gas exploration (-0.2%) as milder weather conditions were recorded in November.

Oil and gas extraction rose 0.1%. The growth in crude petroleum was offset by a decline in output of natural gas. Crude oil extraction on the East Coast fully recovered after maintenance work in September. As well, increased production in the tar sands area led to higher exports of crude oil.

Mining activity gained 2.8% from its sharp October decline. An 8.5% rebound in output of non-metallic minerals (which include diamonds and potash) in November more than offset the declines in iron and other metal ore mines.

Manufacturing loses some ground on the volatility of motor vehicles

Manufacturing output declined 0.3% in November. Production decreased in 9 of the 21 major groups, but among them were some of the largest, accounting for 46% of this sector's output. The largest declines were recorded by manufacturers of transportation equipment (-3.2%), chemicals (-2.6%), paper (-1.1%), and beverage and tobacco products (-1.7%).

Recent swings in consumer purchases of motor vehicles have made 2005 motor vehicle manufacturing volatile. Following strong gains in October, the production of auto and light motor vehicles as well as that of heavy-duty trucks fell markedly in November, resulting in a 5.0% decline in output of motor vehicles. The output of motor vehicle parts weakened 3.7%, a third consecutive monthly decline. With gasoline and fuel oil prices diving from record levels, and American refineries along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico coming back online following extensive production disruptions caused by the hurricane season, Canadian refineries reduced their output. The output of chemical manufacturers also retreated in November, driven by pharmaceuticals and resin and synthetic fibres.

Gains in food manufacturing (+2.6%), plastic products (+2.3%), sawmills (+1.8%), veneer products (+4.5%) and clothing (+5.8%) contributed to limit the decline in output of the sector.

Other activities

Some tourism-related industries fared well in November. Air transportation increased by 3.6% while accommodation services gained 2.8% and food and beverage services rose 1.2%. The number of tourists travelling to Canada increased 1.0% in November.

Despite some sporadic strike activities by Quebec teachers, the end of a strike by British Columbia teachers contributed to the rebound of 2.0% in output of educational services in November. Strike activities by professional employees in Quebec contributed, however, to the 0.5% decline in the output of the provincial administration.

Available on CANSIM: tables 379-0017 to 379-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 1301 and 1302.

The November 2005 issue of *Gross Domestic Product by Industry*, Vol. 19, no. 11 (15-001-XIE, $12/$118) is now available. See *How to order products*. A print-on-demand version is available at a different price.

Data on gross domestic product by industry for December 2005 will be released on February 28.

For general information or to order data, contact Yolande Chantigny (1-800-887-IMAD; *imad@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bernard Lefrançois (613-951-3622), Industry Accounts Division.

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Monthly gross domestic product by industry at basic prices in chained dollars (1997)

	June 2005[r]	July 2005[r]	August 2005[r]	September 2005[r]	October 2005[r]	November 2005[p]	November 2005	November 2004 to November 2005
	seasonally adjusted							
	month-to-month % change						Millions of dollars[1]	% change
All Industries	**0.4**	**0.3**	**0.7**	**-0.1**	**0.2**	**0.2**	**1,083,916**	**3.0**
Goods-producing industries	**-0.1**	**0.6**	**1.2**	**-0.3**	**0.2**	**-0.1**	**343,055**	**1.9**
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	0.4	0.8	0.8	0.9	-2.0	-0.9	24,736	-0.3
Mining and oil and gas extraction	-2.9	4.1	0.9	0.9	-0.6	0.4	40,624	2.8
Utilities	3.1	-2.3	0.4	0.7	-1.2	-0.6	27,369	1.7
Construction	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.4	-0.1	0.7	64,337	4.8
Manufacturing	-0.0	-0.0	1.7	-1.2	1.1	-0.3	184,978	1.1
Services-producing industries	**0.6**	**0.2**	**0.4**	**0.1**	**0.2**	**0.3**	**741,784**	**3.5**
Wholesale trade	1.1	-1.2	2.3	0.7	0.9	-1.0	68,510	6.8
Retail trade	1.1	1.3	-1.1	-1.9	1.5	1.3	63,006	4.0
Transportation and warehousing	0.4	0.6	1.0	0.3	-0.3	-0.1	52,438	4.0
Information and cultural industries	0.3	0.3	0.9	-0.4	0.2	0.1	44,645	3.8
Finance, insurance and real estate	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3	216,486	4.0
Professional, scientific and technical services	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	46,249	1.5
Administrative and waste management services	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3	24,117	3.6
Education services	0.9	0.1	0.5	-0.0	-2.1	2.0	47,345	3.0
Health care and social assistance	0.8	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	62,635	2.2
Arts, entertainment and recreation	1.1	1.1	0.4	0.5	1.4	0.1	9,759	6.6
Accommodation and food services	0.4	-0.3	-0.4	1.1	0.2	1.8	23,568	2.4
Other services (except public administration)	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.0	0.0	26,063	1.1
Public administration	0.3	-0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	-0.1	58,823	2.0
Other aggregations								
Industrial production	-0.3	0.6	1.4	-0.6	0.5	-0.2	254,522	1.5
Non-durable manufacturing industries	-1.2	0.8	1.4	-1.0	-0.3	0.2	73,365	-1.0
Durable manufacturing industries	0.8	-0.5	1.9	-1.4	2.0	-0.7	111,370	2.5
Business sector industries	0.3	0.3	0.7	-0.1	0.3	0.1	923,567	3.1
Non-business sector industries	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.1	-0.5	0.6	160,856	2.4
Information and communication technologies industries	1.3	0.3	0.7	-1.0	0.3	0.3	62,039	4.8
Energy sector	-0.9	1.6	1.6	0.7	-0.1	-0.2	65,606	3.1

r *Revised.*
p *Preliminary.*
1. *Millions of chained dollars (1997), seasonally adjusted at annual rates.*

■

Access to health care services

January to June 2005

Waiting times remain the number one barrier for Canadians who had difficulties in accessing specialized health care services in 2005, according to preliminary results from the report *Access to Health Care Services in Canada*.

The data also show that between 2003 and 2005, median waiting times for all specialized services under study remained relatively stable at between three and four weeks. (The median is the point where exactly one half of waiting times are higher and one half lower.) Most individuals reported they received care within three months, which was also relatively unchanged.

The median waiting time was about four weeks for visits to specialists, four weeks for non-emergency surgery and three weeks for diagnostic tests.

However, there were some differences noted at the provincial level for selected specialized services. Median waiting times for non-emergency surgery were reduced by half in Quebec from almost nine weeks in 2003 to four weeks in 2005.

For diagnostic tests, median waiting times in New Brunswick rose from two weeks in 2003 to four weeks in 2005.

Similarly, patients' views about waiting for care remained fairly stable during the two-year period.

Note to readers

This release is based on the report Access to Health Care Services in Canada, available today.

Data provided in this report on access to health care services are based on a sub-sample of 2005 Canadian Community Health Survey, which focused on access to specialized services and first contact services. The specialized services include visits to a specialist for a new illness or condition, non-emergency surgeries and selected diagnostic tests.

Selected information is provided at the provincial level, thus allowing for a comprehensive assessment of access to care across Canada.

These preliminary results are based on the first six months of data collection. The sample size was about 17,500 individuals aged 15 and over living in a private household in one of the 10 provinces.

A fuller analysis based on 12 months of data will be available later in 2006.

Waiting for care still number one barrier to access

While most individuals who accessed a specialized service did not experience any difficulties, some did. An estimated 2.8 million aged 15 or older visited a medical specialist in 2005. Of these, 18% reported that they faced difficulties accessing care.

Of the 1.5 million people who reported that they had non-emergency surgery, 11% reported that they had difficulty accessing care. Similarly, 15% of the 2.1 million people who accessed a diagnostic test also reported difficulties.

As in previous surveys, those who experienced difficulties cited waiting too long for care as the number one barrier.

Among people who experienced difficulties getting a consultation with a specialist, 65% indicated that waiting was a barrier. Over one-third (37%) indicated that they had difficulties getting an appointment, up from 25% in 2003.

Among those who had difficulties accessing non-emergency surgery, 79% indicated that it was because they had to wait too long. This was higher than the 62% who identified waiting as a barrier in 2003. One in five individuals reporting difficulties indicated that they experienced difficulties getting an appointment, a rate similar to 2003 results.

Similarly, among the 15% who had difficulties accessing diagnostic tests such as a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or computed tomogram (CT) scan, 58% reported that they waited too long to get an appointment, while 38% reported that they waited too long to get the test. The results are similar to those reported in 2003.

Waiting times varied with the type of non-emergency surgery

Waiting times varied by type of non-emergency surgery. For example, 42% of individuals receiving cardiac and cancer related surgery received care within one month. This was more than twice the proportion of 19% who waited a month or less for joint replacements or cataract surgery.

In contrast, 39% of those who had joint replacement or cataract surgery waited more than three months. This was nearly five times the proportion of 8% among those who waited over three months for cardiac and cancer related surgery.

There were some changes in the distribution of waiting times for two of the three types of non-emergency surgery. The proportion of cardiac and cancer related surgeries performed within one to three months nearly doubled from 27% in 2003 to 50% in 2005.

The proportion of patients who waited longer than three months for joint replacement and cataract surgeries increased from 26% to 39% during the two-year period.

Waits unacceptably long for some

Waiting for care is not inherently problematic, but may be considered so when patients experience adverse effects and/or feel they have simply waited too long for care.

The proportion of patients who felt their waiting time was unacceptable was highest among those who waited for specialist visits (29%) and diagnostic tests (24%).

It was lowest among those who waited for non-emergency surgery (17%), even though individuals are more likely to wait longer, that is, more than three months, for non-emergency surgical care compared with other specialized services.

This finding points to potential differences regarding thresholds for unacceptable waits across different specialized services. That is, Canadians may be more willing to wait longer for surgery than for a visit to the specialist.

Others experienced adverse effects

About one in five (19%) individuals who had a consultation with a specialist indicated that waiting for the visit affected their life, compared with about 13% among those who waited for non-emergency surgery or diagnostic tests.

Most individuals who were affected reported that they experienced worry, stress and anxiety during the waiting period. These feelings were reported by 52% of those whose lives were affected by waiting for non-emergency, and 70% of those affected by waiting for a consultation with a specialist.

About one-half of all individuals affected indicated that they experienced pain. Nearly 35% of those who were affected by waiting for a consultation with a specialist or non-emergency surgery indicated that they experienced difficulties with activities of daily living.

About 35% of those who were affected by waiting for a diagnostic test indicated that it resulted in worry, stress and anxiety for their friends and family members, which was double the proportion of 18% in 2003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3226.

The report *Access to Health Care Services in Canada*, 2005 (82-575-XIE, free) is now available on our Web site. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Health*.

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Claudia Sanmartin (613-951-6059; fax: 613-951-3959; *claudia.sanmartin@statcan.ca*) or Jean-Marie Berthelot (613-951-3760; fax: 613-951-3959; *berthel@statcan.ca*), Health Analysis and Measurement Group.

For more information regarding access to the 2005 Canadian Community Health Survey data, contact Mario Bédard (613-951-8933; fax: 613-951-4198; *mario.bedard@statcan.ca*), Health Statistics Division. ■

Real estate agents, brokers, appraisers and other real estate activities industries
2004

Total revenues reported by real estate agents, brokers, appraisers and other real estate industries increased sharply in 2004, reflecting the continued upward trend in residential real estate markets. Historically low mortgage rates, along with steady growth in the Canadian economy, continued to fuel real estate markets during 2004.

Total revenue for these industries surged 11.4% to $8.9 billion in 2004. This growth reflects an increase in sales and higher real estate prices. For example, Statistics Canada's national New Housing Price Index jumped almost 6% during 2004, nearly four times the rate of inflation.

Ontario continued to account for the bulk of the industry with 52.0% of total revenue, followed by British Columbia with 19.0% and Quebec with 13.4%.

These industries were dominated by the offices of real estate agents and brokers, which generated 88% of the total revenue.

Data on the real estate agents, brokers, appraisers and other real estate activities industries are now available for 2004. These data provide information on revenue and expenses at the provincial and territorial level.

Available on CANSIM: table 352-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4706.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Adib Farhat (613-951-6306; *adib.farhat@statcan.ca*) or Eric Chamberland (613-951-0443; *eric.chamberland@statcan.ca*), Service Industries Division. ■

Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports
November 2005

The November 2005 monthly report, Vol. 1 (TP141, free) is available on Transport Canada's Web site (*http://www.tc.gc.ca/pol/en/Report/tp141e/tp141.htm*).

Note: The TP 141 monthly report is issued in two volumes. Volume 1 presents statistics for the major Canadian airports (i.e., those with NAV CANADA air traffic control towers or flight service stations). Volume 2 presents statistics for the smaller airports (i.e., those without air traffic control towers). Both volumes are available free upon release on Transport Canada's website.

For more information about this Web site, contact Michel Villeneuve (613-990-3825; *villenm@tc.gc.ca*), Transport Canada.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2715.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Kathie Davidson (613-951-0141; fax: 613-951-0010; *aviationstatistics@statcan.ca*), Transportation Division. ■

Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation
December 2005

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

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0059.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2110.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Postal code conversion file
October 2005

The October 2005 update of the *Postal Code Conversion File* (PCCF) is now available. This digital file links the six-character postal code with the standard 2001 Census geographic areas (such as dissemination areas, census tracts, and census subdivisions). It also locates each postal code by longitude and latitude to support mapping applications.

The October 2005 update of the *Postal Codes by Federal Riding File (2003 Representation Order)* is also available. This product, a subset of the PCCF, provides a link between the six-character postal code and Canada's Federal Electoral Districts (commonly known as federal ridings). By using the postal code as a link, data from administrative files may be organized and/or tabulated by federal riding.

Note: The PCCF contains information for the Federal Ridings on both the 1996 and 2003 Representation Orders starting with the December 2003 issue and continuing until the last product release based on the 2001 geographies.

The Postal Code Conversion File (92F0153XCE, $9,000; 92F0153UCE, $1,500) and the Postal Codes by Federal Riding File (92F0193XCB, $2,900; 92F0193UCB, $500) are available in ASCII format on diskette or CD-ROM. The reference guides for the Postal Code Conversion File (92F0153GIE, free) and the Postal Codes by Federal Riding File (92F0193GIE, free) are also available in electronic format.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3901.

For more information, or to order these files, contact the National Contact Centre (1-800-263-1136; *infostats@statscan.ca*), Advisory Services Division. ■

New products

Gross Domestic Product by Industry, November 2005, Vol. 19, no. 11
Catalogue number 15-001-XIE ($12/$118).

Employment, Earnings and Hours, November 2005, Vol. 83, no. 11
Catalogue number 72-002-XIB ($26/$257).

Access to Health Care Services in Canada, January to June 2005
Catalogue number 82-575-XIE
(free).

Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada: A Regional Perspective of the Labour Market Experiences, 2003
Catalogue number 89-616-XIE
(free).

Population Projections for Canada, Provinces and Territories, 2005 to 2031
Catalogue number 91-520-XPE ($40).

Population Projections for Canada, Provinces and Territories, with Detailed Electronic Tables, 2005 to 2056
Catalogue number 91-520-SCB ($60).

Postal Code Conversion File, Reference Guide, October 2005
Catalogue number 92F0153GIE
(free).

Postal Code Conversion File: Update, October 2005
Catalogue number 92F0153UCE ($1,500).

Postal Codes by Federal Ridings (2003 Representation Order), 2001 Census, Reference guide, October 2005
Catalogue number 92F0193GIE
(free).

Postal Codes by Federal Ridings (2003 Representation Order), 2001 Census: Update, October 2005
Catalogue number 92F0193UCB ($500).

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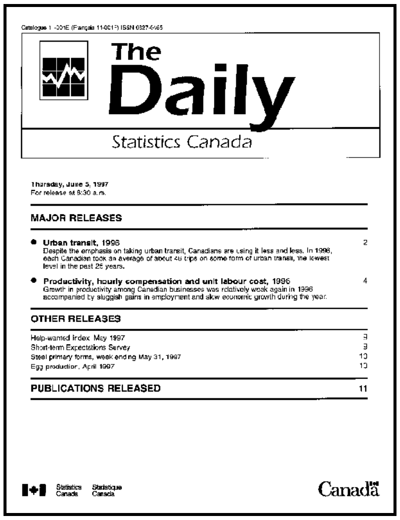

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Release dates: February 2006

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
1	**Field crop reporting series: Stocks of grain**	As of December 31, 2005
6	**Building permits**	December 2005
7	**Health Reports: Use of health care services by seniors**	2003
7	**Canada's retirement income programs**	1991 to 2005
9	**Health Reports: Health at older ages**	2005
9	**New Housing Price Index**	December 2005
10	**Canadian international merchandise trade**	December 2005
10	**Labour Force Survey**	January 2006
14	**New motor vehicle sales**	December 2005
14	**The new migration: Global labour markets, return and onward migration**	
15	**Livestock statistics**	January 1, 2006
16	**Monthly Survey of Manufacturing**	December 2005
16	**Canada's international transactions in securities**	December 2005
17	**Wholesale trade**	December 2005
17	**Monthly Survey of Large Retailers**	December 2005 and Year 2005
20	**Leading indicators**	January 2006
20	**Travel between Canada and other countries**	December 2005
21	**Retail trade**	December 2005
21	**Employment Insurance**	December 2005
22	**Consumer Price Index**	January 2006
23	**Characteristics of international travellers**	Third quarter 2005
23	**Private and public investment in Canada**	Intentions 2006
24	**Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises**	Fourth quarter 2005
24	**International travel account**	Fourth quarter 2005
27	**Farm cash receipts**	Fourth quarter 2005
27	**Balance of international payments**	Fourth quarter 2005
27	**Payroll employment, earnings and hours**	December 2005
28	**Gross domestic product by industry**	December 2005
28	**National economic and financial accounts**	Fourth quarter 2005