

Nova Scotia/Canada Economic Indicators February 2006

(March 16, 2006)



Notes:

- (1) Statistics Canada estimate July 1
- (2) Annual average
- a Actual
- sa Seasonally adjusted
- p Preliminary
- pa Preliminary actual
- i Intention
- ri Revised intention

Data Sources:

Population, Vital Statistics, Migration - Statistics Canada, Demographic Estimates Section, Quarterly Demographic Statistics, Catalogue No. 91-002

Labour Force - Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division, Labour Force Survey, monthly Catalogue No. 71-001-XIE; Labour Force Historical Review, Catalogue No. 71F0004XCB

Employment Insurance - Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division, Employment Insurance Statistics, monthly

Consumer Price Index - Statistics Canada, Prices Division, The Consumer Price Index, Catalogue 62-001

Income (Personal Income per Capita, Total Wages & Salaries, Average Weekly Wages) - Statistics Canada, System of National Accounts, Provincial Economic Accounts, quarterly, Catalogue No. 13-213-PPB; Estimates of Labour Income, quarterly, Catalogue No. 13F0016; Employment, Earnings & Hours, monthly, Catalogue No. 72-002

Retail/Wholesale - Statistics Canada, Retail Trade, monthly, Catalogue No. 63-005; New Motor Vehicle Sales, monthly, Catalogue No. 63-007; Wholesale Trade, monthly, Catalogue No. 63-008

Commodity Sector - Statistics Canada, Farm Cash Receipts, quarterly, Catalogue No. 21-001; Sawmills & Planing Mills, monthly, Catalogue No. 35-003; Canada's Mineral Production, annual, Catalogue No. 26-202; Natural Gas Transportation and Distribution, monthly, Catalogue No. 55-002; Electric Power Statistics, monthly, Catalogue No. 57-001; Fisheries & Oceans Canada statistics, annual monthly, Catalogue No. 57-001; Monthly Survey of Manufacturing Shipments, CANSIM Tables 304-0014 and 304-0015; Canadian International Merchandise Trade, monthly, Catalogue No. 65-001

Construction - Statistics Canada, Private and Public Investment in Canada, annual, Catalogue Nos. 61-205; Building Permits, monthly, Catalogue No.64-001; Canada Mortgage and Housing statistics, monthly/quarterly

Gross Domestic Product - Statistics Canada, System of National Accounts, Provincial Economic Accounts, Catalogue No. 13-213-PPB

NOVA SCOTIA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDICATOR	Current Reference Period	MONTHLY/QUARTERLY/YEAR-TO-DATE STATISTICS					ANNUAL STATISTICS				
		% Change					Year-over-Year % Change				
		Reference Period									
		2 Years Ago	1 Year Ago	Current	1 Year Ago/ 2 Years Ago	Current/ 1 Year Ago	2003	2004	2005	2004/2003	2005/2004
POPULATION	Oct 1/2005	937,133	938,821	938,116	0.2	(0.1)	936,302 (1)	937,509 (1)	937,889 (1)	0.1	0.0
VITAL STATISTICS											
Births	July-Sept/2005	2,332	2,319	2,297	(0.6)	(0.9)	8,650	8,605	-- --	(0.5)	-- --
Deaths	July-Sept/2005	1,949	1,989	2,009	2.1	1.0	8,191	8,336	-- --	1.8	-- --
Marriages	July-Sept/2005	2,458	2,450	2,441	(0.3)	(0.4)	4,878	4,862	-- --	(0.3)	-- --
MIGRATION											
Total Net Migration	July-Sept/2005	448	982	(61)	119.2	-- --	1,647	351	-- --	(78.7)	-- --
Net Interprovincial	July-Sept/2005	(179)	432	(962)	-- --	-- --	427	(954)	-- --	-- --	-- --
Net International	July-Sept/2005	627	550	901	(12.3)	63.8	1,220	1,305	-- --	7.0	-- --
Immigration	July-Sept/2005	465	546	677	17.4	24.0	1,476	1,770	-- --	19.9	-- --
Emigration	July-Sept/2005	(162)	(4)	(224)	-- --	-- --	256	465	-- --	81.6	-- --
LABOUR FORCE											
Seasonally Adjusted											
Total Labour Force ('000)	Feb/2006	479.6	490.6	482.2	2.3	(1.7)	474.6	485.0	483.9	2.2	(0.2)
Employed ('000)	Feb/2006	437.5	442.7	441.7	1.2	(0.2)	431.2	442.2	443.1	2.6	0.2
Goods Industries ('000)	Feb/2006	93.1	90.8	87.4	(2.5)	(3.7)	92.4	93.7	91.2	1.4	(2.7)
Service Industries ('000)	Feb/2006	344.4	351.9	354.2	2.2	0.7	338.8	348.5	351.9	2.9	1.0
Unemployment ('000)	Feb/2006	42.1	47.9	40.5	13.8	(15.4)	43.4	42.8	40.8	(1.4)	(4.7)
Unemployment Rate (%)	Feb/2006	8.8	9.8	8.4	-- --	-- --	9.1	8.8	8.4	-- --	-- --
Participation Rate (%)	Feb/2006	63.5	64.6	63.2	-- --	-- --	63.1	64.1	63.6	-- --	-- --
Actual											
Employed ('000)	Feb/2006	420.0	425.3	423.7	1.3	(0.4)	431.2	442.2	443.1	2.6	0.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	Feb/2006	9.7	10.7	9.5	-- --	-- --	9.1	8.8	8.4	-- --	-- --

NOVA SCOTIA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDICATOR	Current Reference Period	MONTHLY/QUARTERLY/YEAR-TO-DATE STATISTICS					ANNUAL STATISTICS				
		% Change					Year-over-Year % Change				
		<u>Reference Period</u>					2003	2004	2005	2004/2003	2005/2004
		2 Years Ago	1 Year Ago	Current	1 Year Ago/ 2 Years Ago	Current/ 1 Year Ago					
EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS (EI)											
Total Beneficiaries (#)	Dec/2005	41,880	42,430	40,020	1.3	(5.7)	40,698 (2)	40,941 (2)	40,793 (2)	0.6	(0.4)
Total Benefits Paid (\$'000)	Dec/2005	55,106	53,719	58,710	(2.5)	9.3	680,374	678,533	692,344	(0.3)	2.0
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)											
Nova Scotia											
All-Items	Feb/2006	124.2	127.4	130.5	2.6	2.4	123.9	126.1	129.6	1.8	2.8
Food	Feb/2006	123.6	128.3	131.6	3.8	2.6	122.5	125.3	129.2	2.3	3.1
Shelter	Feb/2006	124.4	128.0	133.7	2.9	4.5	122.3	125.4	130.9	2.5	4.4
INCOME											
Personal Income Per Capita (\$)	2004	25,418	26,113	26,905	2.7	3.0	26,113	26,905	-- --	3.0	-- --
Total Wages & Salaries (\$ millions)	Jan-Dec/2005	12,997.2	13,368.9	14,076.0	2.9	5.3	12,997.2	13,368.9	14,076.0	2.9	5.3
Average Weekly Wages & Salaries (\$)	Dec/2005	604.11	629.93	646.96	4.3	2.7	597.08	611.93	637.08 p	2.5	4.1
RETAIL/WHOLESALE TRADE⁽¹⁾											
All Retail Outlets (\$ millions)	Jan-Dec/2005	10,014.9	10,296.5	10,588.0	2.8	2.8	10,014.9	10,296.5	10,588.0	2.8	2.8
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ millions)	Jan/2006	65.3	61.0	84.1	(6.6)	37.9	1,313.1	1,282.2	1,383.1	(2.4)	7.9
Wholesale Trade (\$millions)	Jan-Dec/2005	6,854.3	6,266.7	6,239.4	(8.6)	(0.4)	6,854.3	6,266.7	6,239.4	(8.6)	(0.4)

⁽¹⁾ Statistics Canada terminated department store sales data due to confidentiality constraints.

NOVA SCOTIA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDICATOR	Current Reference Period	MONTHLY/QUARTERLY/YEAR-TO-DATE STATISTICS					ANNUAL STATISTICS						
		% Change					Year-over-Year % Change						
		2 Years Ago	1 Year Ago	Current	Reference Period		2003	2004	2005	2004/2003	2005/2003		
			1 Year Ago/	Current/									
COMMODITY SECTORS													
Farm Cash Receipts (\$ millions)	Jan-Dec/2005	424.8	451.4	455.1	6.3	0.8	424.8	451.4	455.1	6.3	0.8		
Fish Landings (\$ millions)	Jan-Dec/2004	801.1	825.9	697.6	p	3.1	(15.5)	825.9	697.6	p	-- --	(15.5)	-- --
Lumber Production (000m3)	Jan-Dec/2005	1,648.4	1,750.7	1,556.7	6.2	(11.1)	1,648.4	1,750.7	1,556.7	6.2	(11.1)		
Mineral Production ⁽¹⁾ (\$ millions)	2005	263.2	285.6	286.1	p	8.5	0.2	263.2	285.6	286.1	p	8.5	0.2
Marketable Gas Receipts (million m3)	Jan-July/2005	2,667.4	2,539.5	2,231.1	(4.8)	(12.1)	4,469.5	4,174.1	-- --	(6.6)	-- --		
Power Generation (GW.h)	Jan-Dec/2005	12,386.9	12,563.8	12,371.7	1.4	(1.5)	12,386.9	12,563.8	12,371.7	1.4	(1.5)		
Manufacturing Shipments (\$ millions)	Jan/2006	667.1	680.8	727.5	2.1	6.9	8,642.5	9,281.1	9,795.1	7.4	5.5		
Foreign Exports (\$ millions)	Jan/2006	398.5	397.5	507.9	(0.3)	27.8	5,351.4	5,479.3	5,679.7	2.4	3.7		
Foreign Imports (\$ millions)	Jan/2006	361.6	487.2	575.3	34.7	18.1	5,816.1	6,589.9	6,986.8	13.3	6.0		
CONSTRUCTION													
Capital Construction													
Expenditures (\$ millions)	2006	3,662.0	3,699.5	4,176.8	pa	1.0	12.9	3,441.9	3,662.0	3,699.5	pa	6.4	1.0
Building Permits (\$ millions)	Jan/2006	42.9	35.2	51.8	p	(17.9)	47.2	1,014.1	1,125.8	1,188.3	11.0	5.6	
Housing Starts Centres 10,000+													
Starts (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	3,589	3,313	3,258	(7.7)	(1.7)	3,589	3,313	3,258	(7.7)	(1.7)		
Completions (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	3,634	3,526	2,991	(3.0)	(15.2)	3,634	3,526	2,991	(3.0)	(15.2)		
All Areas													
Starts (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	5,096	4,717	4,775	(7.4)	1.2	5,096	4,717	4,775	(7.4)	1.2		
Completions (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	5,434	4,896	4,456	(9.9)	(9.0)	5,434	4,896	4,456	(9.9)	(9.0)		
Under Construction (units)	Dec 31/2005	2,770	2,653	2,902	(4.2)	9.4	2,770	2,653	2,902	(4.2)	9.4		
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT													
Real GDP (chained '97 \$ millions)	2004	24,702	24,925	25,271	0.9	1.4	24,925	25,271	-- --	1.4	-- --		

⁽¹⁾ Excludes oil and gas.

CANADA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDICATOR	Current Reference Period	MONTHLY/QUARTERLY/YEAR-TO-DATE STATISTICS					ANNUAL STATISTICS				
		% Change					Year-over-Year % Change				
		Reference Period									
		2 Years Ago	1 Year Ago	Current	1 Year Ago/ 2 Years Ago	Current/ 1 Year Ago	2003	2004	2005	2004/2003	2005/2004
POPULATION	Oct 1/2005	31,761,723	32,069,999	32,378,122	1.0	1.0	31,669,150 (1)	31,974,363 (1)	32,270,507 (1)	1.0	0.9
VITAL STATISTICS											
Births	July-Sept/2005	88,856	88,858	90,070	0.0	1.4	335,202	336,003	-- --	0.2	-- --
Deaths	July-Sept/2005	53,979	54,517	54,895	1.0	0.7	227,285	232,176	-- --	2.2	-- --
Marriages	July-Sept/2005	17,119	67,858	70,837	296.4	4.4	145,048	146,377	-- --	0.9	-- --
MIGRATION											
Total Net Migration	July-Sept/2005	57,796	61,295	72,440	6.1	18.2	196,070	197,500	-- --	0.7	-- --
Immigration	July-Sept/2005	63,349	65,578	75,975	3.5	15.9	229,071	235,826	-- --	2.9	-- --
Emigration	July-Sept/2005	5,553	4,283	3,535	(22.9)	(17.5)	25,332	38,326	-- --	51.3	-- --
LABOUR FORCE											
Seasonally Adjusted											
Total Labour Force ('000)	Feb/2006	17,093.4	17,655.3	17,455.5	3.3	(1.1)	16,958.5	17,182.3	17,342.6	1.3	0.9
Employed ('000)	Feb/2006	15,840.4	16,070.6	16,345.7	1.5	1.7	15,672.3	15,947.0	16,169.7	1.8	1.4
Goods Industries ('000)	Feb/2006	3,952.1	3,983.9	4,002.0	0.8	0.5	3,925.7	3,989.8	4,002.4	1.6	0.3
Service Industries ('000)	Feb/2006	11,888.3	12,086.7	12,343.7	1.7	2.1	11,746.6	11,957.2	12,167.3	1.8	1.8
Unemployment ('000)	Feb/2006	1,253.0	1,212.7	1,109.8	(3.2)	(8.5)	1,286.2	1,235.3	1,172.8	(4.0)	(5.1)
Unemployment Rate (%)	Feb/2006	7.3	7.0	6.4	-- --	-- --	7.6	7.2	6.8	-- --	-- --
Participation Rate (%)	Feb/2006	67.5	67.4	67.0	-- --	-- --	67.5	67.5	67.2	-- --	-- --
Actual											
Employed ('000)	Feb/2006	15,538.1	15,769.2	16,041.7	1.5	1.7	15,672.3	15,947.0	16,169.7	1.8	1.4
Unemployment Rate (%)	Feb/2006	7.8	7.5	6.7	-- --	-- --	7.6	7.2	6.7	-- --	-- --

CANADA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

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		2 Years Ago	1 Year Ago	Current	% Change		2003	2004	2005	Year-over-Year % Change			
					1 Year Ago/ 2 Years Ago	Current/ 1 Year Ago				2004/2003	2004/2003		
EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS (EI)													
Total Beneficiaries (#)	Dec/2005	887,440	846,620	812,680	p	(4.6)	(4.0)	841,279 (2)	826,525 (2)	803,826 (2)	(1.8)	(2.7)	
Total Benefits Paid (\$'000)	Dec/2005	1,268,871	1,200,945	1,153,624		(5.4)	(3.9)	14,950,569	14,970,341	14,692,519	0.1	(1.9)	
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)													
Canada													
All-Items	Feb/2006	123.2	125.8	128.6		2.1	2.2	122.3	124.6	127.3	1.9	2.2	
Food	Feb/2006	123.4	126.6	130.2		2.6	2.8	122.4	124.9	128.0	2.0	2.5	
Shelter	Feb/2006	119.0	122.6	127.1		3.0	3.7	117.5	120.5	124.2	2.6	3.1	
INCOME													
Personal Income Per Capita (\$)	2004	28,664	29,369	30,343		2.5	3.3	29,369	30,343	--	3.3	--	
Total Wages & Salaries (\$ millions)	Jan-Dec/2005	541,741.1	563,149.2	593,769.1		4.0	5.4	541,741.1	563,149.2	593,769.1	4.0	5.4	
Average Weekly Wages & Salaries (\$)	Dec/2005	702.35	714.30	737.69		1.7	3.3	690.35	705.68	727.53	p	2.2	3.1
RETAIL/WHOLESALE TRADE⁽¹⁾													
All Retail Outlets (\$ millions)	Jan-Dec/2005	331,143.1	346,721.5	367,800.0		4.7	6.1	331,143.4	346,721.5	367,800.0	4.7	6.1	
New Motor Vehicle Sales (\$ millions)	Jan/2006	2,711.6	2,687.4	2,975.0		(0.9)	10.7	50,493.3	49,639.2	52,511.3	(1.7)	5.8	
Wholesale Trade (\$millions)	Jan-Dec/2005	418,810.2	446,210.0	470,324.3		6.5	5.4	418,810.2	446,210.0	470,324.3	6.5	5.4	

(1) Statistics Canada terminated department store sales data due to confidentiality constraints.

CANADA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

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		% Change					Year-over-Year % Change				
		2 Years Ago	1 Year Ago	Current	Reference Period		2003	2004	2005	2004/2003	2005/2004
			1 Year Ago/	Current/							
COMMODITY SECTORS											
Farm Cash Receipts (\$ millions)	Jan-Dec/2005	34,360.0	36,521.3	36,936.6	6.3	1.1	34,360.0	36,521.3	36,936.6	6.3	1.1
Fish Landings (\$ millions)	Jan-Dec/2004	2,177.0	2,231.4	2,177.6 p	2.5	(2.4)	2,231.4	2,177.6 p	-- --	(2.4)	-- --
Lumber Production (000m3)	Jan-Dec/2005	79,319.3	84,589.6	82,888.9	6.6	(2.0)	79,319.3	84,589.6	82,888.9	6.6	(2.0)
Mineral Production ⁽¹⁾ (\$ millions)	2005	20,077.2	24,302.7	26,357.0	21.0	8.5	20,077.2	24,302.7	26,357.0	21.0	8.5
Marketable Gas Receipts (million m3)	Jan-July/2005	97,377.7	97,693.6	98,000.1	0.3	0.3	166,395.6	167,283.0	-- --	0.5	-- --
Power Generation (GW.h)	Jan-Dec/2005	564,218.5	568,719.4	593,635.2	0.8	4.4	564,218.5	568,719.4	593,635.2	0.8	4.4
Manufacturing Shipments (\$ millions)	Jan/2006	42,545.8	46,886.1	48,247.7	10.2	2.9	546,770.2	593,452.5	611,550.7	8.5	3.0
Foreign Exports (\$ millions)	Jan/2006	27,902.1	30,969.7	35,548.2	11.0	14.8	354,231.6	385,087.1	407,608.4	8.7	5.8
Foreign Imports (\$ millions)	Jan/2006	24,125.0	27,862.1	30,427.1	15.5	9.2	336,103.7	356,055.7	379,576.7	5.9	6.6
CONSTRUCTION											
Capital Construction											
Expenditures (\$ millions)	2006	154,125.2	167,838.4 pa	179,590.5 i	8.9	7.0	136,763.6	154,125.2	167,838.4 pa	12.7	8.9
Building Permits (\$ millions)	Jan/2006	2,827.4	2,827.2	3,440.7	(0.0)	21.7	50,772.0	55,578.6	60,755.7	9.5	9.3
Housing Starts Centres 10,000+											
Starts (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	191,907	204,392	193,470	6.5	(5.3)	191,907	204,392	193,470	6.5	(5.3)
Completions (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	173,956	188,345	184,406	8.3	(2.1)	173,956	188,345	184,406	8.3	(2.1)
All Areas											
Starts (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	218,426	233,431	225,481	6.9	(3.4)	218,426	233,431	225,481	6.9	(3.4)
Completions (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	199,244	215,621	211,242	8.2	(2.0)	199,244	215,621	211,242	8.2	(2.0)
Under Construction (units)	Dec 31/2005	137,774	155,230	169,880	12.7	9.4	137,774	155,230	169,880	12.7	9.4
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT											
Real GDP (chained '97 \$ millions)	2004	1,070,789	1,092,388	1,124,428	2.0	2.9	1,092,388	1,124,428	-- --	2.9	-- --

⁽¹⁾ Excludes oil and gas.