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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Building permits,** June 1999 and second quarter of 1999 2
  Gains in both residential and non-residential sectors pushed construction intentions up for a second straight month in June. Municipalities issued $3.0 billion worth of building permits, up 4.9% from May.

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MAJOR RELEASES

Building permits

June 1999 and second quarter of 1999

Gains in both residential and non-residential sectors pushed construction intentions up for a second straight month in June. Municipalities issued $3.0 billion worth of building permits, up 4.9% from May.

This marks the second month this year that $3 billion or more in permits were issued. This is the first year since 1991 that building permits have reached or exceeded the $3 billion mark in more than one month.

Housing intentions rose 1.4% to $1.7 billion in June, on the heels of a 10.5% gain in May — reflecting an advance in single family dwellings.

On the other hand, after two straight monthly declines, builders took out $1.3 billion in permits for industrial, commercial and institutional projects in June, up 9.9% from May.

The value of building permits advanced in both the first (+3.6%) and the second quarters (+4.4%) of 1999 following a decline of 4.7% in the fourth quarter of 1998. Overall, between January and June this year, municipalities issued $17.2 billion in building permits, up 3.4% over the same six-month period last year. This was the best performance for the first six months in any year since 1990.

After a slight decrease (-0.2%) in the first quarter of 1999, residential building permits rose 7.6% in the second quarter. Residential building permits are up 5.9% during the first six months of 1999 compared with the same period in 1998.

After finishing 1998 on a poor note (-14.0% in the fourth quarter), non-residential permits rebounded (+8.7%) in the first quarter of 1999, but could not maintain the momentum in the second quarter (+0.6%). In the first six months of 1999, non-residential permits edged up 0.5% compared with the same period in 1998.

Note to readers

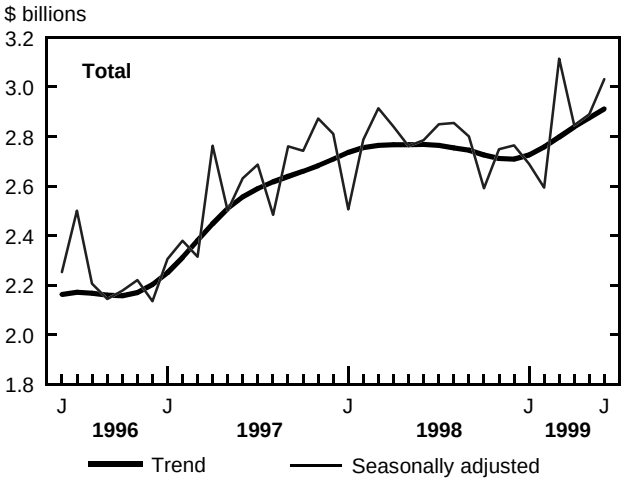
Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which ease comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations.

The Building and demolitions permits monthly survey, which covers 2,600 municipalities representing 94% of the population, provides an early indication of building activity. The communities representing the other 6% of the population are very small, and their levels of building activity have little impact on the total.

The value of planned construction activities shown in this release excludes engineering projects (for example, waterworks, sewers, culverts) and land.

The territory of Nunavut was introduced starting with April 1999 data. This change will also affect the geographical coverage and data of the Northwest Territories.

Total value of permits up 4.9%



Single family dwellings lead the monthly increase in the housing sector

Construction intentions in single family dwellings advanced (+6.8% in June) for a third straight month, as municipalities issued permits worth $1.3 billion. At the same time, permits for multi-family dwellings fell 11.2% to $444 million, following a gain of 25.7% in May.

Despite recent movements in mortgage rates, housing affordability and consumer confidence remain positive. Similarly, investment in housing is expected to increase for the fourth consecutive year in 1999, according to recent data from Statistics Canada's

Survey of Private and Public Investment revised intentions.

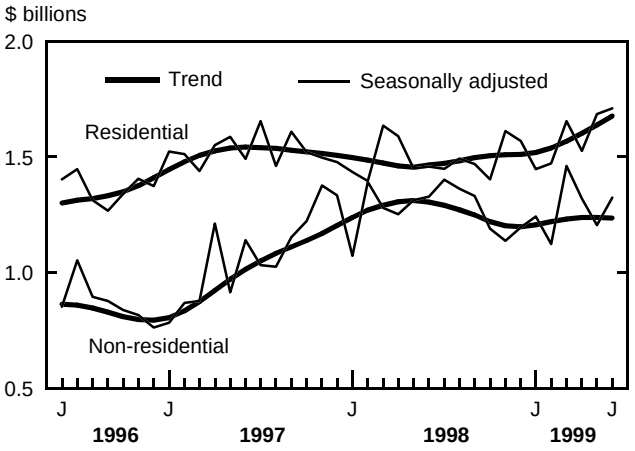
Provincially, the largest increases in residential permits in June (in terms of dollars) occurred in British Columbia (+21.2% to $261 million), Alberta (+2.3% to $240 million) and Nunavut (+130.4% to $7 million). Except for Alberta, where single family dwellings led the way, both single and multi-family intentions were responsible for the increase.

The largest decreases in June occurred in Ontario (-3.3% to $821 million) and Nova Scotia (-14.9% to $35 million). A large drop in multi-family housing permits led to the Ontario decline, while single family dwellings were responsible for the drop in Nova Scotia.

Overall housing intentions gained 7.6% in the second quarter — pushed by increases in both single dwelling (+9.7%) and multi-family housing (+2.3%). These second quarter advance followed a weak first quarter of 1999 (single family dwellings fell 1.7% and multi-family dwellings advanced 3.5%).

In the first six months of the year, builders took out $9.5 billion worth of residential permits, up 5.9% over the same period in 1998. Single family dwellings led the way with a 6.9% increase, while multi-family permits rose 3.6%. Ontario, Quebec and Nova Scotia showed the most significant increases, reflecting gains in both components but mainly in single homes. Both British Columbia and Alberta suffered deep losses in single-family dwellings, and British Columbia recorded an even larger reduction in multi-unit dwellings.

Both sectors are up in June



Rebound in the non-residential sector

A rebound of 9.9% in non-residential building intentions in June came on the heels of two straight monthly declines of the same magnitude. In the first six months of 1999, the overall value for non-residential building permits reached $7.7 billion, up a modest 0.5% compared with the same period in 1998.

June's gain was led by increases in both institutional and industrial intentions. Both of these components had experienced two straight monthly declines in April and May. The overall increase was moderated by a decline in commercial projects.

Institutional intentions climbed 39.9% to $384 million in June, the highest value since December 1992. The advance was largely the result of increased medical, hospital and government administrative building permits. Moreover, the cumulative value of institutional permits in the first six months of 1999 ($1.8 billion) is the highest value ever recorded for the first six months of any year.

The value of industrial permits increased 17.4% to $288 million in June, with the largest contributions coming from factories and mining and agricultural projects. However, industrial intentions were down 7.7% for the first six months of 1999 compared with the same period last year.

Commercial building permits dropped 4.9% to $651 million following a sharper decline in May (-8.2%). The decline in June was chiefly the result of a large reduction in office building permits. Nevertheless, for the first six months of 1999, the value of commercial permits reached $4.0 billion, up 3.8% compared with the same period last year.

On a provincial basis, the most significant increases in June (in terms of dollars) were in British Colombia (+44.5% to $301 million), Quebec (+22.9% to $206 million) and Saskatchewan (+85.6% to $33 million). Except for Quebec, where industrial intentions led the way, all three components were responsible for the increases.

Monthly decreases occurred in Ontario (-9.7% to $481 million) and Nova Scotia (-16.7% to $34 million). In Ontario, all three components declined, while the institutional component was solely responsible for the decline in Nova Scotia.

Non-residential permits were robust (+8.7%) in the first quarter of 1999, pushed by strong advances in industrial and institutional intentions. Lower permit values in the industrial component (-26.7%) dampened the overall gain (+0.6%) in the second quarter, partially offsetting increases in institutional (+21.0%) and commercial projects (+7.0%).

British Columbia was the major factor behind the second quarter advance in non-residential permits, with a jump of 98.0%, reflecting increases in all components, but especially institutional intentions. Moderating effects came from declines in Quebec (-31.3%) and Ontario (-6.3%), where reductions in industrial permits led the way.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 80 (levels 3-7 and 33-48), 129, 137, 443, 989-992, 994, 995 and 4073.

The June 1999 issue of *Building permits* (64-001-XIB, $19/$186) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

The July 1999 building permits estimate will be released on September 7, 1999. For further information or to enquire about methods, concepts or data quality of this release, as well as analytical information, contact Pierre Després (613-951-9691; *desppie@statcan.ca*), Investment and Capital Stock Division. □

Value of building permits

	May 1999[r]	June 1999[p]	May to June 1999	First quarter 1999	Second quarter 1999	First to second quarter 1999
	seasonally adjusted					
	$ millions		% change	$ millions		% change
Canada	**2889.4**	**3032.3**	**4.9**	**8397.8**	**8766.2**	**4.4**
Residential	1684.8	1708.8	1.4	4572.1	4918.8	7.6
Non residential	1204.5	1323.5	9.9	3825.6	3847.4	0.6
Newfoundland	16.3	25.4	55.5	109.5	67.0	-38.8
Residential	11.3	14.7	29.4	55.6	41.0	-26.2
Non residential	5.0	10.7	114.6	54.0	26.0	-51.9
Prince Edward Island	11.3	14.1	24.2	22.8	38.2	68.0
Residential	7.2	5.5	-23.3	15.7	19.2	22.3
Non residential	4.1	8.5	107.6	7.0	19.0	170.2
Nova Scotia	81.5	68.7	-15.8	203.7	217.6	6.8
Residential	41.3	35.2	-14.9	124.9	122.3	-2.1
Non residential	40.2	33.5	-16.7	78.8	95.3	20.9
New Brunswick	41.9	51.4	22.4	97.8	141.1	44.2
Residential	26.7	25.4	-5.2	65.7	76.7	16.7
Non residential	15.2	26.0	71.0	32.1	64.4	100.5
Quebec	411.8	451.2	9.6	1703.2	1341.3	-21.3
Residential	243.9	244.7	0.4	798.0	719.4	-9.9
Non residential	168.0	206.5	22.9	905.2	621.9	-31.3
Ontario	1380.8	1301.1	-5.8	3799.1	4025.6	6.0
Residential	848.9	820.6	-3.3	2096.8	2431.4	16.0
Non residential	531.9	480.5	-9.7	1702.3	1594.3	-6.3
Manitoba	64.8	64.8	0.0	210.5	218.4	3.8
Residential	26.8	27.4	2.4	94.2	86.8	-7.9
Non residential	38.0	37.4	-1.7	116.3	131.6	13.2
Saskatchewan	42.2	58.1	37.9	130.7	180.9	38.4
Residential	24.6	25.5	3.7	46.8	73.2	56.4
Non residential	17.6	32.6	85.6	83.9	107.7	28.3
Alberta	399.7	407.1	1.9	1184.3	1125.3	-5.0
Residential	234.0	239.5	2.3	703.3	661.9	-5.9
Non residential	165.7	167.7	1.2	481.1	463.4	-3.7
British Columbia	424.1	562.6	32.7	905.9	1356.1	49.7
Residential	215.6	261.3	21.2	558.3	667.8	19.6
Non residential	208.6	301.3	44.5	347.6	688.3	98.0
Yukon	2.6	7.1	176.6	6.9	16.5	139.1
Residential	1.4	1.3	-5.1	4.8	3.9	-17.9
Non residential	1.1	5.7	402.0	2.1	12.6	491.8
Northwest Territories	1.8	5.6	204.1	23.2	8.0	-65.3
Residential	0.3	1.2	280.1	8.0	1.6	-80.0
Non residential	1.5	4.4	188.1	15.1	6.4	-57.5
Nunavut	10.4	15.1	45.1	...	30.2	...
Residential	2.8	6.5	130.4	...	13.6	...
Non residential	7.6	8.6	13.3	...	16.6	...

[p] *Preliminary data.*
[r] *Revised data.*
... *Figures not appropriate or not applicable.*
Note: *Data may not add to totals due to rounding.*

■

OTHER RELEASES

Help-wanted Index
July 1999

The Help-wanted Index advanced 0.6% in July 1999 to 160 (1996=100).

Monthly increases in six provinces were partially offset by declines in Saskatchewan (-1.6%) and Alberta (-1.6%). New Brunswick and Manitoba remained unchanged.

Help-wanted Index
(1996=100)

	July 1998	June 1999	July 1999	July 1998/July 1999	June to July 1999
	seasonally adjusted and smoothed				
				% change	
Canada	**143**	**159**	**160**	**11.9**	**0.6**
Newfoundland	138	156	161	16.7	3.2
Prince Edward Island	146	166	173	19.2	4.2
Nova Scotia	143	164	167	16.8	1.8
New Brunswick	153	179	179	17.0	0.0
Quebec	141	160	163	15.6	1.9
Ontario	151	173	175	15.9	1.2
Manitoba	161	181	181	12.4	0.0
Saskatchewan	135	129	127	-5.9	-1.6
Alberta	148	128	126	-14.9	-1.6
British Columbia	121	125	127	5.0	1.6

Note: The Help-wanted Index is compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 22 newspapers in 20 major metropolitan areas. The index is a measure of companies' intentions to hire new workers. These indices have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed to ease month-to-month comparisons.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 105 (levels 8 to 10).

For more information, or to enquire about concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Gilles Groleau (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; *labour@statcan.ca*), Labour Statistics Division. ■

Estimates of labour income
May 1999 (preliminary)

Labour income reached $40.3 billion in May, virtually unchanged from April. Labour income rose 2.7% during the first five months of 1999 compared with the same period in 1998.

Wages and salaries continued to advance in finance, insurance and real estate and in commercial and personal services. These industries have recorded steady gains throughout 1999. Wages and salaries also rose in transportation, storage and communications and in health and social services — primarily due to the return to work of striking employees in the telecommunications and the health sector.

These gains, however, were offset by declines in logging and forestry, mines, quarries and oil wells, construction, other utilities, trade and education and related services. Decreases in employment and average earnings contributed to the declines in these industries.

Note: Labour income consists of wages and salaries (88%), plus supplementary labour income (12%). Wages and salaries include items such as bonuses, gratuities, taxable allowances and retroactive wage payments. Supplementary labour income is employers' contributions to employee welfare, pension, workers' compensation and Employment Insurance plans. Labour income accounts for about 52% of gross domestic product.

Seasonally adjusted data are revised back to January 1999.

Wages and salaries and supplementary labour income

	April 1999[r]	May 1999[p]	April to May 1999
	seasonally adjusted		
	$ millions		% change
Agriculture, fishing and trapping	298.7	294.7	-1.3
Logging and forestry	250.2	245.9	-1.7
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	773.2	765.7	-1.0
Manufacturing	6,633.2	6,637.2	0.1
Construction	2,004.8	1,991.1	-0.7
Other utilities	583.7	578.2	-0.9
Transportation, storage, communications	2,621.6	2,653.8	1.2
Trade	5,258.8	5,233.1	-0.5
Finance, insurance and real estate	3,246.9	3,264.3	0.5
Commercial and personal services	5,798.3	5,815.9	0.3
Educational and related services	2,708.6	2,689.8	-0.7
Health and social services	2,791.6	2,809.2	0.6
Federal administration and other government services	881.6	878.2	-0.4
Provincial administration	688.7	689.8	0.2
Local administration	659.1	660.3	0.2
Military	270.9	269.3	-0.6
Total wages and salaries	**35,469.9**	**35,476.4**	**0.0**
Supplementary labour income	4,856.3	4,853.5	-0.1
Labour income	**40,326.2**	**40,329.9**	**0.0**

[p] *Preliminary figures.*
[r] *Revised figures.*

Available on CANSIM: matrices 6597-6624.

The May 1999 issue of the *Tables and analytical document: Estimates of labour income, monthly estimates* (13F0016XPB, $20/$200) is now available.

At 8:30 a.m. on release day, data sets are available for purchase on microcomputer diskette (13F0016XDB). Seven days after the official release date, these diskettes become available at a lower cost. To purchase either of these products, contact the client services officer (613-951-3640, *iead-info-dcrd@statcan.ca*), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Katherine Fraser (613-951-4049; fax: 613-951-3618), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division. ■

Short-term Expectations Survey

The results of the Short-term Expectation Survey show that the performance of the economy is expected to show little change between July and September compared with June, with only a slight increase in inflation.

The month-over-month mean forecast for gross domestic product in May was 0.2% compared with actual growth of 0.3%. Analysts expect stability in June and July, with a mean monthly growth of 0.3% for both months.

Forecasts for international trade show a small change in the surplus between June and August. Average forecasts for exports and imports show little change for the same period.

Forecasters are expecting an increase in the Consumer Price Index between July and September. Actual inflation has been slightly higher than expected — the forecast average for May and June was 1.5%, compared with the actual rate of 1.6% for the same period.

The actual seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 7.6% in June, partially due to a lower participation rate than expected (65.3%). Forecasters are anticipating a slight increase in the unemployment rate from an average of 7.7% in July to 7.8% in September. A slight increase in the participation rate is also expected for July (65.5%), August (65.6%) and Septebmer (65.6%).

The next release will be on September 8, 1999.

For further information, for a set of tables, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Serge Bourret (613-951-0821; fax: 613-951-1572; *bourret@statcan.ca*), Small Business and Special Surveys Division. □

Short-term expectations Survey

	Average forecasts					Actual figures	
	May	June	July	August	Sept.	May	June
	seasonally adjusted month/month %, constant $1992						
Gross domestic product							
Initial forecast	0.2	0.2	0.3	..	..	0.3	..
First revision	0.2	0.3	..	..	..		
Second revision	0.2	..	..	..	..		
	$ billion						
Exports							
Initial forecast	28.8	29.0	28.9	29.0	..	28.9	..
First revision	28.9	28.9	29.0	..	..		
Second revision	29.0	28.9	..	..	..		
Imports							
Initial forecast	26.2	26.6	26.7	26.5	..	26.5	..
First revision	26.5	26.4	26.4	..	..		
Second revision	26.4	26.4	..	..	..		
Balance							
Initial forecast	2.6	2.4	2.2	2.5	..	2.4	..
First revision	2.4	2.5	2.6	..	..		
Second revision	2.6	2.5	..	..	..		
	year/year %change						
Consumer Price Index							
Initial forecast	0.8	1.0	1.5	1.6	1.9	1.6	1.6
First revision	0.9	1.5	1.5	1.7	..		
Second revision	1.5	1.5	1.7	..	..		
	seasonally adjusted %						
Unemployment rate							
Initial forecast	7.8	7.7	8.0	8.1	7.8	8.1	7.6
First revision	7.8	8.0	8.1	7.8	..		
Second revision	8.1	8.1	7.7	..	..		
Labour force participation rate							
Initial forecast	65.9	65.8	65.9	66.0	65.6	65.7	65.3
First revision	65.8	65.9	66.0	65.6	..		
Second revision	65.9	65.9	65.5	..	..		

.. *Not available.*

■

Family income
1997

The median total income of husband-wife families advanced less than 1% to $50,800 in 1997 compared with a year earlier, after adjusting for inflation.

Among the provinces and territories, the highest median income for husband-wife families was in the Northwest Territories, excluding Nunavut ($72,200), followed by the Yukon ($60,200) and Ontario ($55,300).

In husband-wife families with employment income in 1997, both husband and wife were earning income in almost 70% of these families. Women contributed more to the total income in 25% of husband-wife families with employment income in 1997, up from 21% at the beginning of the decade. (This proportion has remained close to 25% since 1993.) In husband-wife families with only one earner, males were the sole earner about three-quarters of the time.

The median total income of lone-parent families was $21,300 in 1997, up 1.3% from 1996 after adjusting for inflation. A large increase in median total income in Alberta was due to posting the second highest median income for lone-parent families ($22,400) in 1997, just behind Ontario ($23,000).

The median total income of non-family persons was $16,500 in 1997, almost the same as 1996.

A full 85% of families received some government transfer income in 1997. Of the total government transfers of $75.8 billion, husband-wife families received $42.7 billion, lone-parent families received $9.1 billion and the remaining $24.1 billion was received by non-family persons.

Most (83%) husband-wife families also reported some government income assistance in 1997, with the largest proportion coming from CPP/QPP payments (29%) followed by Old Age Security (24%). Almost all lone-parent families (97.5%) reported income from government transfers. The largest component of transfers for these families was Social Assistance (39%). The largest component of transfer payments for non-family persons was Old Age Security.

Government transfers made up a much larger proportion of total income for lone-parent families and non-family persons than for husband-wife families. Overall, 26% of lone-parent family income and 22% of income of non-family persons came from transfers while these accounted for only 10% of income to husband-wife families.

Family median income
1997

	Husband-wife families	Lone parent families	Non-family persons
Canada	**50,800**	**21,300**	**16,500**
Newfoundland	38,000	16,000	12,400
Prince Edward Island	43,600	20,600	14,000
Nova Scotia	45,000	17,600	14,400
New Brunswick	43,200	16,800	13,800
Quebec	47,000	21,100	14,600
Ontario	55,300	23,000	18,300
Manitoba	47,800	19,200	15,900
Saskatchewan	47,600	18,300	15,600
Alberta	54,700	22,400	18,600
British Columbia	51,300	21,600	18,200
Yukon	60,200	22,000	21,900
Northwest Territories excluding Nunavut	72,200	19,900	22,700
Nunavut	45,800	17,600	19,400

Note: Data for 1997 were derived from income tax returns filed in the spring of 1998.

Median income is determined by ranking all incomes declared by taxpayers (excluding incomes equal to zero) and selecting the one that sits at the mid-point of the list.

Husband-wife families include married couples and those living common-law, with or without children. Lone-parent families consist of one parent (male or female) with at least one child. There is no restriction on the age of children.

Total income includes employment income, investment income, government transfer payments, private pensions, RRSP income and other income (net rental income, alimony, income from a limited partnership, and other taxable income not mentioned above).

Government transfer payments include: Employment Insurance; Old Age Security including Guaranteed Income Supplement and Spousal Allowance; Net Federal Supplements; Canada and Quebec Pension Plan benefits; Child Tax Benefit; New Brunswick, Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia Family Allowance; Goods and Services Tax Credit; Workers' Compensation; Social Assistance; and provincial/territorial Refundable Tax Credits for Newfoundland, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Data for 1997 have been tabulated for the Northwest Territories and Nunavut according to the new boundaries that came into effect April 1, 1999. The old boundaries were used for data prior to 1997.

The data for *Family income* (13C0016) are available for Canada, the provinces and territories, cities, towns, census metropolitan areas, census divisions, as well as for areas as small as urban forward sortation areas (the first three characters of the postal code) and for letter carrier routes.

For further information on this release, contact Client Services (613-951-9720; fax: 613-951-4745; *saadinfo@statcan.ca*), Small Area and Administrative Data Division. ■

Technology adoption in manufacturing: Communications
1998

Communications networks are fast becoming an integral part of the daily operations of Canadian manufacturers, according to a report on their use of new technologies. A significant number of these businesses are also using new communications tools for functions related to electronic commerce, advertising and marketing as well as the buying and selling of goods and services.

Most establishments use communications networks as a general reference tool (52%), followed by marketing and customer information and accounting and financing purposes (46%). Other uses include tracking sales inventory (38%) and sharing information on technology (36%).

Slightly more than two-thirds of the establishments in manufacturing (69%) use E-mail. A similar number

use the Internet (70%). Of the 70% that use the Internet, the main function is to browse the World Wide Web (89%). Other Internet use includes advertising and marketing (57%), or purchasing (40%) and selling (39%) products.

As for other uses of the Internet, more than half of the establishments in manufacturing (57%) have a home page on the World Wide Web. As well, one-third (33%) use Electronic Data Interchange, a technology that allows purchasers and suppliers to exchange electronic files, such as purchase orders and invoices, or to electronically transfer funds.

Internet use in manufacturing (establishment weighted)

Purpose	Yes	No
	% of establishments	
Searching on the World Wide Web	89	11
Selling your goods and services	39	61
Advertising/ marketing your goods and services	57	43
Purchasing goods and services	40	60
Secure electronic transactions	27	73
Sharing research and development	16	84
Other	9	91

Data in this release are part of a comprehensive analytical paper examining the use of new technologies by Canadian businesses. In addition to communications networks, technology adoption in Canadian manufacturing also examines the use of business practices, the development and implementation of new technologies, skill requirements and the results of, and obstacles to, adopting new technologies.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Antoine Rose (613-951-9919; fax: 613-951-9920; *Antoine.Rose@statcan.ca*) Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division. ■

Steel pipe and tubing
June 1999

Steel pipe and tubing production totalled 196 411 tonnes in June, down 6.1% from 209 258 tonnes a year earlier.

Year-to-date production to the end of June totalled 1 209 574 tonnes, down 6.8% from 1 297 454 tonnes during the same period in 1998.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 35.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-7093;*milsomg@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Domestic and international shipping
First quarter 1999 (preliminary)

Canadian ports handled 62.5 million tonnes of domestic and international cargo during the first quarter of 1999, down 8.3% from the same period in 1998. Lower international shipments of iron ore, crude petroleum and wheat were responsible for most of the decline.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 145 and 146.

Preliminary first quarter statistics will be published in the *Surface and marine transport: Service bulletin, Vol. 15, no. 5* (50-002-XIB, $10/$62), which will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0009; *laroque@statcan.ca*), Transportation Division. ■

Registered Apprenticeship Training Survey
1997

The number of registered apprentices reached 172,342 in 1997, up 9.9% from 1987. While total apprenticeship registrations increased, the number of apprentices completing programs was 5.1% lower in 1997 compared with 1987.

Total registrations in apprenticeship programs have increased since 1987 and appear to be recovering from the economic slump in the early 1990s. While female apprentices are still predominantly in the food and service trades, women have made major advances in several of the other trade groups. These increases may reflect the success of several initiatives to encourage women to enter trade and technical programs.

Economic recessions have a sudden effect on decreasing total apprenticeship registrations, but

their numbers also recover when economic conditions improve. Appreticeship completions, however, while not falling as quickly as registrations, may feel the effects of the recession over a longer period. Recessions further lengthen the sometimes already extended period of time it takes apprentices to complete their program.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Karl Skof (613-951-1529; fax: 613-951-6765; *skofkar@statcan.ca*) or Bernard Bourgoin (613-951-1506; fax: 613-951-6765; *bourber@statcan.ca*), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

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Registered apprenticeship training
1987 and 1997

	Total registered apprenticeship						Apprenticeship completions					
	1987[1]		1997		Male	Female	1987		1997		Male	Female
	Male	Female	Male	Female			Male	Female	Male	Female		
					% change						% change	
Major trade groups												
Building construction trades	40,006	309	32,920	834	-17.7	169.9	3,075	19	1,995	33	-35.1	73.7
Electrical, electronics and related	26,325	252	27,832	552	5.7	119.0	2,240	16	2,546	22	13.7	37.5
Food and service trades	5,556	6,863	8,317	9,644	49.7	40.5	858	1,935	957	1,729	11.5	-10.6
Industrial and mechanical trades	9,642	59	14,118	218	46.4	269.5	1,330	5	1,485	13	11.7	160.0
Metal fabricating trades	32,061	247	35,554	472	10.9	91.1	3,130	19	3,603	30	15.1	57.9
Motor vehicle and heavy equipment	32,205	381	37,292	710	15.8	86.4	4,186	30	3,620	44	-13.5	46.7
Other trades	2,324	627	2,995	885	28.9	41.1	332	83	270	36	-18.7	-56.6
Total all trade groups	**148,119**	**8,738**	**15,9028**	**13,315**	**7.4**	**52.4**	**15,151**	**2,107**	**14,476**	**1,907**	**-4.5**	**-9.5**

[1] *In 1987, 3% of the apprenticeship file did not have gender information for total registrations or completions.*
Note: *The missing male and female numbers were derived based on existing gender information.*

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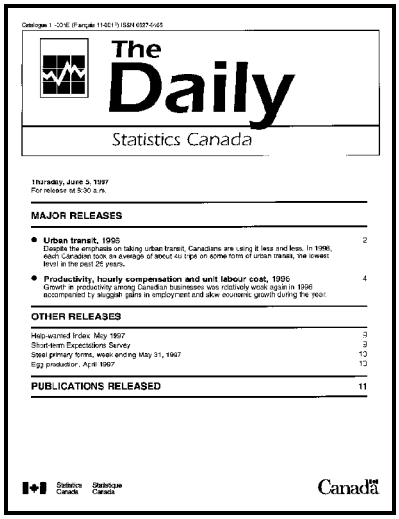
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