Catalogue 11-001-XIE (Français 11-001-XIF) ISSN 0827-0465

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, January 22, 2003
Released at 8:30 am Eastern time

MAJOR RELEASES

OTHER RELEASES

(continued on page 2)

2001 Census topic-based tabulations (various levels of geography)

Additional topic-based tabulations for the "Marital status of Canadians" and "Families and household living arrangements" topics are now available for various levels of geography.

These topic-based tabulations are available for fee (costs vary depending on geography level) in Beyond 20/20 format from the Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre nearest you.

MAJOR RELEASES

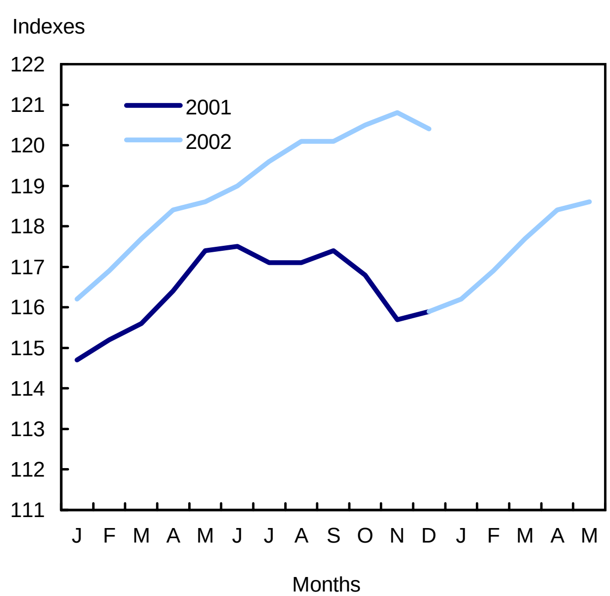
Consumer Price Index

December 2002

Consumers paid 3.9% more in December 2002 than they did in December 2001 for the goods and services included in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket. Although the base effect in December was not as pronounced as in November, it was still present. However, the slowdown in the 12-month increase in the CPI from 4.3% in November to 3.9% in December was caused mostly by a tumble in the Ontario electricity index. This decline was the result of a legislation passed in December 2002 by the Ontario government, which reduced electricity rates and included a $75 refund. The CPI excluding energy filters out the base effect and the impact of the electricity refund in Ontario. In December, the 12-month increase in this index remained at 3.5%, the same as in November.

Important factors contributing to December's 12-month increase in the CPI excluding energy included automotive vehicle insurance premiums, cigarettes, homeowners' replacement cost, rent, purchase of automotive vehicles, and homeowners' insurance premiums. Lower mortgage interest cost moderated the increase in the index.

All-Items Index, Canada



Base effect

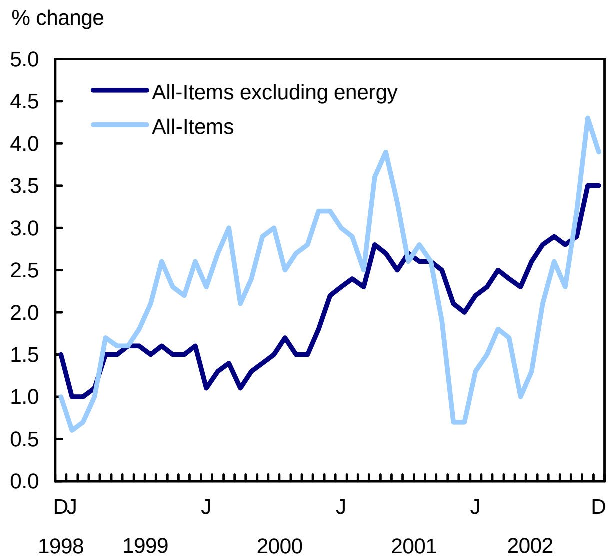
The 12-month percentage change is calculated by comparing the current month's index with the index for the same month in the previous year. The base effect largely explains the sizeable increases observed in the 12-month percentage change in the CPI in the past three months. Even if the CPI had remained stable from September 2002 to December 2002, the 12-month increase would have gone from 2.3% in September to 3.6% in December simply because the index used as the base for the comparison declined sharply. The base effect will still be felt next month, although it will not be as important, because the CPI increased from December 2001 to January 2002. If the CPI were to remain at its December 2002 level in January 2003, the 12-month increase would be 3.6%. The index used as the base for comparison will return to a level comparable to that of September 2001 in March; only then will the base effect fade away.

The energy price index rose 7.1% from December 2001 to December 2002, compared with a 14.0% jump from November 2001 to November 2002. This deceleration was caused mostly by the electricity index for Ontario plummeting 42.0%, as Ontario consumers received a $75 refund in December 2002. The remaining slowing down effect came from natural gas prices, for which the price increase decelerated to 2.6% in December from 14.5% in November. Gasoline prices were still 20.8% higher than in December 2001, although they fell from November to December 2002. Fuel oil prices posted a 12-month increase of 17.2%.

In December, Alberta registered the largest provincial 12-month increase (+8.3%). A large part of this rise is due to increases of 57.0% in automotive vehicle insurance premiums and of 102.2% in natural gas prices. In the case of natural gas, the index level for December 2002 is compared with a level unusually low in December 2001 (base effect), because consumers benefited from the remaining portion of a one-time credit introduced in November 2001.

Ontario posted the smallest increase (+2.8%). A 42.0% drop in the electricity index was the main factor explaining the fact that this increase is below the national average.

Percentage change from the same month of the previous year, Canada



Annual average CPI goes up from 2001 to 2002

In 2002, the annual average All-items CPI increased 2.2%, a slightly slower rate of increase than the 2.6% observed for 2001. Annual average indexes are calculated by averaging index levels over the 12 months of a calendar year.

Excluding energy, the All-items index rose 2.8% on average in 2002, compared with a 2.4% average increase the year before. These increases are almost twice as large as the ones observed from 1996 to 2000, which remained at 1.4% and 1.5%.

Energy prices declined on average 2.0% in 2002, following a 3.3% average increase in 2001 and a substantial 16.2% gain in 2000. Lower energy prices in 2002 were largely the result of an 18.1% drop in natural gas prices. This decrease contrasts with the 29.6% jump in 2001. An 8.1% decline in fuel oil prices, as well as a 0.9% slip in gasoline prices, also helped push the average energy index down in 2002. The only factor moderating these declines was a 7.7% hike in the electricity index.

Among the major components of the CPI, alcoholic beverages and tobacco products contributed the most to the annual average increase in the CPI in 2002. After rising 7.7% in 2001, it climbed 17.6% in 2002. The jump in cigarette prices, induced by hikes in federal and provincial taxes throughout the year, accounted for at least three-quarters of this increase.

Ranking second among the components contributing to the increase in the annual average CPI is transportation, with a rise of 2.8% in 2002, compared with 0.1% in 2001. The 13.2% increase in automotive vehicle insurance premiums, and the 8.0% jump for air transportation costs explained the largest part of the rise in the transportation index in 2002.

Food prices rose on average 2.6% in 2002, after climbing 4.5% in 2001. These increases are significantly higher than those of the previous three years, which remained between 1.3% and 1.6%. Contributing the most to the 2002 increase were meals purchased from table-service restaurants, fresh vegetables (especially potatoes), milk products, bakery products, beef and fresh fruit.

The shelter index was up 0.9% on average in 2002, following a 3.7% increase in 2001. The strongest upward pressures in 2002 came from electricity, homeowners' replacement cost and rent. However, drops in natural gas prices and mortgage interest cost partly neutralized these increases.

In 2002, the annual average index for recreation, education and reading rose 1.6%, an increase comparable to that of 2001 (+1.5%). Higher travel tour prices, university tuition fees, cablevision rates, and spectator entertainment admission fees are mostly responsible for the 2002 increase. Moderating this rise were lower prices for traveller accommodation and computer equipment and supplies.

The annual average index for household operations and furnishings also rose (+1.4%). The most important contributors to this increase were telephone services, other household services, and pet food and supplies.

The health and personal care component (+1.1%) contributed mildly to the rise in the All-items annual average index. Half of this increase came from a 3.6% rise in dental care prices.

The only downward pressure on the All-items annual average index came from the clothing and footwear component (-0.8%). The 1.2% declines registered for the clothing index and the footwear index were only partly neutralized by a 2.7% rise in the index for clothing material, notions and services.

Monthly percentage change in the CPI

From November to December, the All-items CPI fell 0.3%, after having edged up 0.2% from October to November. The most significant downward pressure on the CPI was exerted by the decline in Ontario's electricity index. In contrast, the CPI excluding energy was up 0.3%.

Lower overall clothing prices and a decrease in the price of gasoline were other important factors pulling down the All-items CPI. However, higher automotive vehicle insurance premiums and fresh vegetable prices attenuated these declines.

The 18.7% tumble in the electricity index for Canada was almost entirely attributable to the 50.0% drop in the electricity index for Ontario. The new Ontario government legislation set the price of electricity at 4.3 cents per kilowatt-hour starting on December 1, 2002, and makes provision for refunds of amounts paid in excess of the 4.3 cents since May 1, 2002. A first refund of $75 was mailed to Ontario consumers in December, reducing substantially the average consumer bill used to calculate the CPI.

Clothing prices were 3.6% lower in December than in November, because of pre-Christmas sale prices. This monthly decrease was the largest registered in a month of December since the inception of the series in 1982. Lower prices were observed in all provinces, price decreases ranging from 1.0% in Newfoundland and Labrador to 9.1% in Nova Scotia.

In December, consumers paid 2.6% less for gasoline than in November 2002, bringing about a second consecutive monthly decrease. Gasoline prices were lower in all provinces. Price decreases ranged from 1.3% in Nova Scotia to 7.6% in Manitoba and were generally more pronounced in western Canada.

Automotive vehicle insurance premiums increased 6.2% in December. The CPI tracks insurance premiums for a four-year-old car. Most of the observed increase can be attributed to adjustments reflecting the fact that we now track the insurance premiums for a 1999 automotive vehicle model instead of a 1998 model.

Prices for fresh vegetables jumped 5.0% in December 2002, mainly because of a 25.9% leap in the price of tomatoes. Generally, the holiday season put upward pressure on the prices of fresh vegetables. In the case of tomato prices, increased demand was combined with limited supply because of poor weather affecting crops in Florida.

The seasonally adjusted CPI declines from November to December 2002

After adjustment for seasonal variations, the All-items CPI edged down 0.2% from November to December, following an increase of 0.5% in November. The leading factor contributing to this downward movement was the drop in the shelter index (-1.2%), pushed down by the $75 refund to electricity consumers of Ontario. Other factors included lower indexes for clothing and footwear (-0.9%), and alcoholic beverages and tobacco products (-0.1%). These decreases were partly counterbalanced by increases in the indexes for transportation (+0.8%), food (+0.2%), household operations and furnishings (+0.2%), health and personal care (+0.2%), and recreation, education and reading (+0.1%).

All-items excluding the eight most volatile components (Bank of Canada definition)

From December 2001 to December 2002, the prices of the goods and services included in the All-items index, excluding the eight most volatile components as defined by the Bank of Canada, rose 2.7%. The drop in Ontario's electricity index accounted for much of the deceleration in this index from 3.1% in November to 2.7% in December.

From November to December 2002, the All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components as defined by the Bank of Canada slipped 0.5%, mainly because of the fall in Ontario's electricity index.

Several changes will be made to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) starting with the January 2003 data to be released on February 27, 2003.

The basket of goods and services used to calculate the CPI will be updated to reflect changes in consumer expenditure patterns. Expenditure patterns for 2001 will replace those for 1996.

Some modifications will be made to the commodity classification system. Detailed indexes for the Women's, Men's and Children's clothing categories will no longer be published. The only indexes that will be published are the Women's, Men's and Children's Clothing aggregates.

Indexes for Internet Access Services and Financial Services will be published on the time base of December 2001=100.

Selected indexes will be published for Iqaluit.

Changes will be made to the methodology used to seasonally adjust the CPI series starting with the January 2003 data.

The time base will remain unchanged at 1992=100.

Data based on the new basket will be loaded onto the existing CANSIM tables and vectors. The only changes involve the termination of the clothing series mentioned above and the addition of vectors for Iqaluit, Internet Access Services and Financial Services. The new vector numbers will be announced once they have been determined in January 2003.

As well, because of changes in the Ontario electricity market that became effective on May 1, 2002, it was necessary to adjust the treatment of electricity prices in the CPI for that province. A question and answer fact sheet that explains those changes is now available.

For more information on the basket update or to obtain the fact sheet on the treatment of electricity prices in Ontario, contact Client Service (1-866-230-2248; 613-951-1539; *infounit@statcan.ca*), Prices Division.

Available on CANSIM: tables 326-0001 to 326-0004 and 326-0010.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 2301.

Available at 7 am on Statistics Canada's website (*www.statcan.ca*). From the home page, choose *Today's news releases from The Daily*, then *Latest Consumer Price Index release*.

The December 2002 issue of the *Consumer Price Index* (62-001-XIB, $8/$77; 62-001-XPB, $11/$103) is now available. See *How to order products*.

The January 2003 Consumer Price Index will be released on February 27.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, call Rebecca McDougall (1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; or Joanne Moreau (613-951-7130), Prices Division.

The Consumer Price Index and major components
(1992=100)

	December 2002	November 2002	December 2001	November to December 2002	December 2001 to December 2002
				% change	
All-items	**120.4**	**120.8**	**115.9**	**-0.3**	**3.9**
Food	121.2	120.4	118.6	0.7	2.2
Shelter	114.0	115.7	112.6	-1.5	1.2
Household operations and furnishings	114.0	114.0	113.0	0.0	0.9
Clothing and footwear	102.3	105.2	103.7	-2.8	-1.4
Transportation	140.1	139.2	126.0	0.6	11.2
Health and personal care	116.1	116.2	114.5	-0.1	1.4
Recreation, education and reading	126.0	126.7	122.9	-0.6	2.5
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	131.6	131.9	111.9	-0.2	17.6
All-items (1986=100)	154.2				
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared to 1992	83.1	82.8	86.3		
Special Aggregates					
Goods	116.1	117.8	112.3	-1.4	3.4
Services	125.2	124.4	120.0	0.6	4.3
All-items excluding food and energy	119.3	119.2	114.8	0.1	3.9
Energy	127.6	136.2	119.1	-6.3	7.1
All-items excluding the 8 most volatile components[1]	120.9	121.5	117.7	-0.5	2.7

1 *Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, please consult the Bank of Canada Web site: http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation.*

The Consumer Price Index by Province, and for Whitehorse and Yellowknife
(1992=100)

	December 2002	November 2002	December 2001	November to December 2002	December 2001 to December 2002
				% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador	119.0	119.6	113.4	-0.5	4.9
Prince Edward Island	120.3	121.0	113.8	-0.6	5.7
Nova Scotia	121.7	122.5	115.7	-0.7	5.2
New Brunswick	121.4	121.5	114.3	-0.1	6.2
Quebec	117.0	117.1	113.1	-0.1	3.4
Ontario	120.6	121.8	117.3	-1.0	2.8
Manitoba	124.6	124.6	120.1	0.0	3.7
Saskatchewan	125.4	125.6	120.3	-0.2	4.2
Alberta	128.3	127.9	118.5	0.3	8.3
British Columbia	118.8	118.9	114.8	-0.1	3.5
Whitehorse	119.4	119.3	115.2	0.1	3.6
Yellowknife	118.1	117.8	113.1	0.3	4.4

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Monthly Survey of Manufacturing

November 2002

Manufacturing shipments declined 1.3% to $43.6 billion in November, the lowest level since June. Coupled with rising finished-product inventories and lower unfilled orders, the manufacturing sector has lost some momentum in recent months. A slowdown in the motor vehicle industry, as well as ongoing market volatility in the petroleum and coal products industry, contributed to the decline in shipments this month. Excluding both industries, shipments decreased at a more modest pace of 0.3%.

The trend for shipments was negative in November, the first negative reading in one year. During recent months, the increase in the trend had been slowing, as manufacturers reacted to uncertainty in market in market demand and the latest upswing in inventory levels.

Shipments by province and territory

	October 2002	November 2002	October to November 2002
	Seasonally adjusted		
	$ millions		% change
Newfoundland and Labrador	186	198	6.5
Prince Edward Island	121	111	-8.9
Nova Scotia	756	747	-1.2
New Brunswick	1,137	1,016	-10.6
Quebec	10,218	10,135	-0.8
Ontario	23,724	23,336	-1.6
Manitoba	961	971	1.1
Saskatchewan	608	603	-0.8
Alberta	3,504	3,559	1.6
British Columbia	2,919	2,899	-0.7
Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut	6	5	-16.2

In November, 14 of 21 manufacturing industries representing 82% of total shipments posted decreases. November's decline in shipments was mainly concentrated in the durable goods sector, a key indicator of business and consumer confidence. Manufacturers of durable goods fell back 1.6% to $25.0 billion, the lowest level since March. The non-durable goods sector also reported a decrease (-0.8%) in November, the first since February.

Ontario led the seven provinces and territories that reported decreases in November. Shipments in Ontario declined by $388.4 million (-1.6%) from October. Manufacturers in New Brunswick contracted output by $120.7 million (-10.6%), and Quebec reported an $83.4 million (-0.8%) decrease.

Note to readers:

In addition to current-month estimates, data for the previous three months are regularly revised. Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of company data, incorrect information reported earlier, replacement of estimates with actual figures (once available), and seasonal adjustments. Consult the appropriate CANSIM tables for revised data.

***Non-durable goods industries** include food, beverage and tobacco products, textile mills, textile product mills, leather and allied products, paper, printing and related support activities, petroleum and coal products, chemicals and plastic and rubber products.*

***Durable goods industries** include clothing, wood products, non-metallic mineral products, primary metals, fabricated metal products, machinery, computer and electronic products, electrical equipment, appliance and components, transportation equipment, furniture and related products and miscellaneous manufacturing.*

***Unfilled orders** are a stock of orders that will contribute to future shipments assuming that the orders are not cancelled.*

***New orders** are those received whether shipped in the current month or not. They are measured as the sum of shipments for the current month plus the change in unfilled orders. Some people interpret new orders as orders that will lead to future demand. This is inappropriate since the "new orders" variable includes orders that have already been shipped. Readers should take note that the month-to-month change in new orders may be volatile. This will happen particularly if the previous month's change in unfilled orders is closely related to the current month's change.*

Not all orders will be translated into Canadian factory shipments because portions of large contracts can be subcontracted out to manufacturers in other countries.

So far this year, manufacturing is on an up note

November's drop in shipments contrasts with manufacturers' performance for the year as a whole. In 2002, record low interest rates, strong growth in the labour market and higher levels of disposable income had consumers racing to acquire new homes and automobiles. From January to November, shipments were 1.6% above the same period of 2001.

Manufacturers also went on a hiring spree in 2002. According to the year-end report of the Labour Force Survey, the manufacturing sector added 125,000 employees (+5.6%) to their payrolls, accounting for over 22% of the total number of new jobs (+560,000) created in 2002. This year's robust job growth followed the downturn of 2001, a year remembered for faltering global demand and the bust of the telecommunications sector, cuts to production and employment, and stubbornly high inventory levels.

Canadian manufacturers fare well compared with their American counterparts

So far in 2002, Canadian manufacturers outperformed their counterparts in the United States. From January to November, US shipments declined 1.3% from the same period of 2001.

Manufacturers in the United States continued to scale back their inventory holdings. US inventories fell 0.3% to $427.8 billion, the lowest level since March 1997. The decrease was largely due to a 0.3% decline in inventories of durable goods. Persistent uncertainty regarding the US economy contributed to the twenty-second consecutive decrease in inventories of durable goods.

Uncertainty in the coming months

Although 2002 witnessed the resurgence of many Canadian manufacturers from the year before, geo-political tensions in various regions of the world, coupled with the ongoing uncertainty of the US economy, warrant some concern in the months ahead.

Manufacturers have reported a gradual accumulation of finished-product inventories in recent months. Finished-products rose a decisive 2.7% in November, contributing to a 1.0% increase in total inventories. In addition, unfilled orders have been on a steady decline since September.

Motor vehicles and petroleum pull down shipments

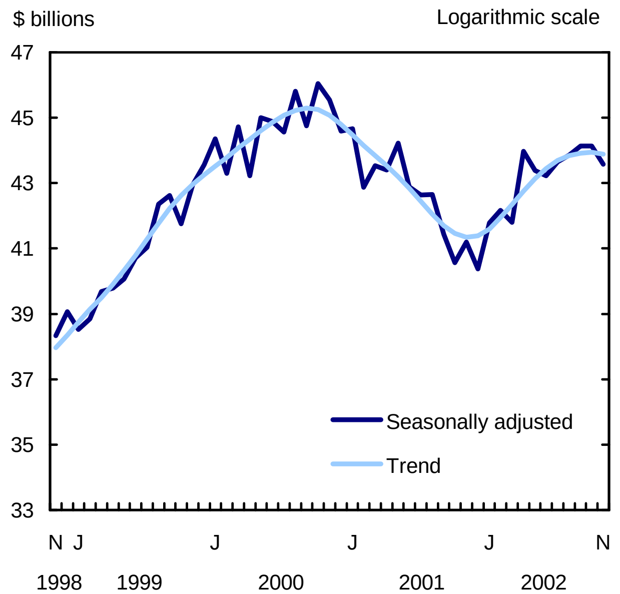
Following an upbeat start to 2002, the motor vehicle industry slowed markedly in recent months. In November, manufacturers reduced shipments of motor vehicles 4.7% to $5.4 billion, the lowest level since March. Temporary shutdowns at some assembly plants in November contributed to the fourth straight decline in shipments.

Demand for passenger cars in United States and Canada has also slowed in recent months. Automobile sales in the United States have fallen sharply in November from near-record levels of one year ago. According to the latest report of new motor vehicle sales for Canada, a significant drop in passenger car sales in November accounted for most of the 4.7% decline in new motor vehicle sales compared with October.

Despite the recent spate of decreases, 2002 was a productive year for the motor vehicle industry. Low interest rates and attractive financing incentives contributed to strong demand for passenger cars in North America. From January to November, Canadian motor vehicle shipments were 6.6% higher than in the same period of 2001.

Shipments of petroleum and coal products fell to $2.8 billion in November. Short-term maintenance shutdowns at some refineries and lower industrial prices (-2.6%) in November contributed to a 6.5% decrease in shipments. A number of extenuating circumstances have resulted in some volatility of shipments in recent months. The threat of war in Iraq and the start of general strikes in Venezuela have been negative factors influencing the Canadian petroleum and coal products industry.

Shipments decrease for the first time since June



Slightly offsetting the decline in shipments for November were increases in the paper (+2.4%) and motor vehicle parts (+2.3%) industries.

Finished-product inventories rise for a fourth straight month

A significant increase in manufacturers' finished-product inventories boosted total inventories 1.0%, the largest monthly gain in two years. Inventories were $63.4 billion in November, the highest level in 14 months.

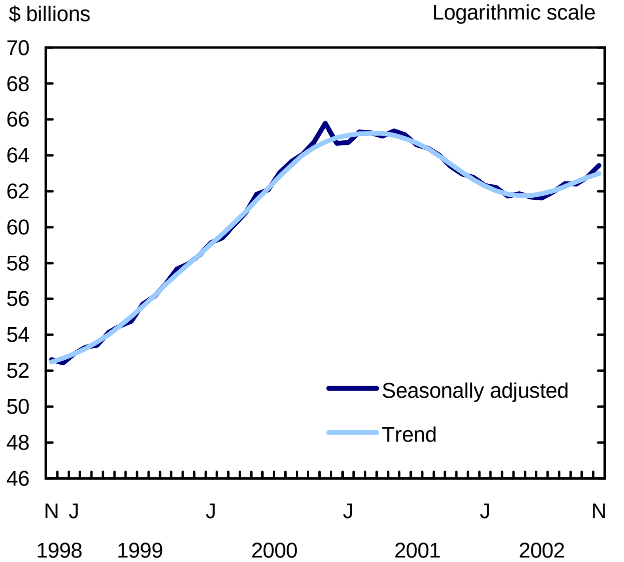
The trend in inventories has been rising since the spring. Before May, inventories had been in a steady decline since mid-2001.

Finished-product inventories increased to $19.9 billion in November, the fourth straight increase. November's rise marked the longest string of consecutive increases since 2000, and may be a sign of slowing demand.

For the second consecutive month, goods-in-process inventories increased 1.1%. In

November, goods-in-process were $16.2 billion, a 14-month high. Meanwhile, raw material inventories edged down 0.2%, following a 0.4% increase last month.

Finished-products boost manufacturing inventories overall



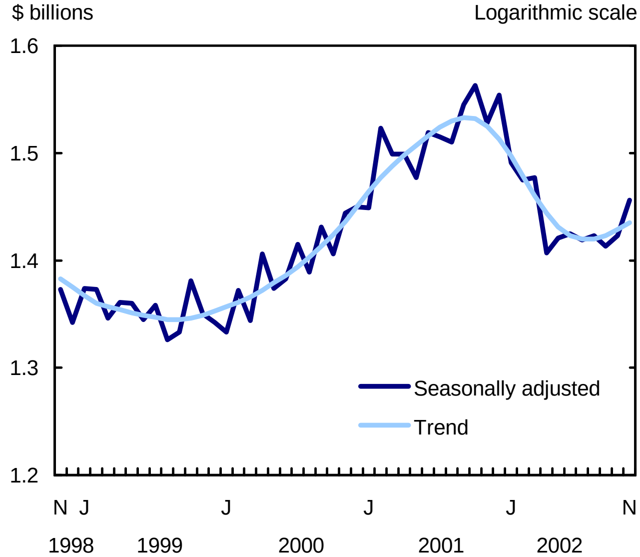
Higher inventories reported by manufacturers of computer and electronic products and motor vehicles, as well as the chemical products industry, were the primary contributors to November's rise.

Higher inventories pull up the inventory-to-shipment ratio

In November, the inventory-to-shipment ratio jumped to its highest level since March. Mounting inventories and a sharp decline in shipments boosted the inventory-to-shipment ratio to 1.46 from 1.42 in October. The ratio had remained relatively stable since April, as manufacturers controlled their inventory levels while shipments grew moderately. Despite November's increase, the inventory-to-shipment ratio remained well below the nine-year apex established in October 2001.

A sharp rise in finished-products inventories increased the finished-product inventory-to-shipment ratio from 0.44 to 0.46 in November, the highest level since March. The ratio is a key measure of the time that would be required in order to exhaust finished-product inventories if shipments were to remain at their current level.

Rising inventories contribute to a higher inventory-to-shipment ratio



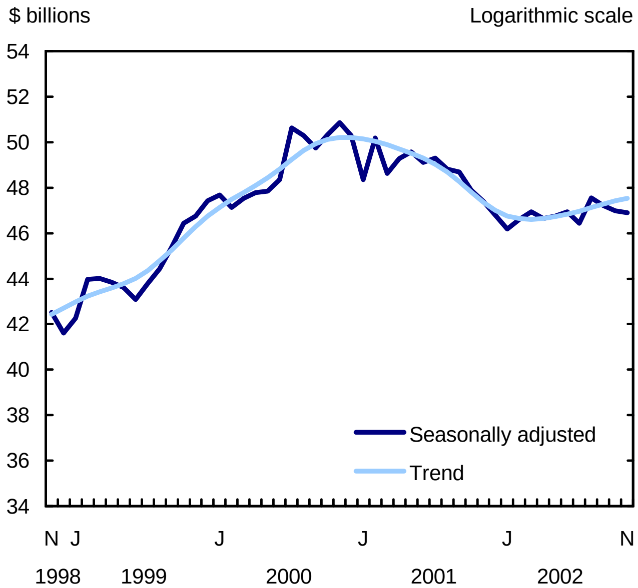
Unfilled orders continue to decline

Unfilled orders edged down 0.2% in November, following declines in October (-0.5%) and September (-0.7%). Orders decreased to $46.9 billion, the lowest level since July.

Fewer orders were on the books for the transportation equipment sector and computer and electronic products manufacturers, which more than offset increases of unfilled orders in the primary metals and fabricated metal products industries.

New orders continued the somewhat volatile ride of recent months. Manufacturers reported 0.9% fewer new orders in November, wiping out October's modest gain (+0.3%). New orders fell back to $43.5 billion, and have declined in five of the last seven months. Decreases were reported by the computer and electronics products and motor vehicles industries.

Unfilled orders decline for a third month in a row



Available on CANSIM: tables 304-0014 and 304-0015.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 2101.

The November 2002 issue of the *Monthly Survey of Manufacturing* (31-001-XIB, $15/$147) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

Data for shipments by province in greater detail than normally published may be available on request.

All data are benchmarked to the 1998 Annual Survey of Manufactures.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; fax: 613-951-9499; *manufact@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of the release, contact Russell Kowaluk (613-951-0600; *kowarus@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Shipments, inventories and orders in all manufacturing industries

	Shipments		Inventories		Unfilled orders		New orders		Inventory-to-shipment ratio
	Seasonally adjusted								
	$ millions	% change	$ millions	% change	$ millions	% change	$ millions	% change	
November 2001	41,190	1.5	62,954	-0.7	47,401	-1.0	40,712	2.4	1.53
December 2001	40,380	-2.0	62,767	-0.3	46,789	-1.3	39,768	-2.3	1.55
January 2002	41,782	3.5	62,311	-0.7	46,178	-1.3	41,170	3.5	1.49
February 2002	42,168	0.9	62,213	-0.2	46,596	0.9	42,586	3.4	1.48
March 2002	41,803	-0.9	61,724	-0.8	46,931	0.7	42,137	-1.1	1.48
April 2002	43,982	5.2	61,861	0.2	46,641	-0.6	43,693	3.7	1.41
May 2002	43,380	-1.4	61,657	-0.3	46,761	0.3	43,500	-0.4	1.42
June 2002	43,228	-0.3	61,612	-0.1	46,933	0.4	43,400	-0.2	1.43
July 2002	43,649	1.0	61,958	0.6	46,440	-1.1	43,156	-0.6	1.42
August 2002	43,851	0.5	62,407	0.7	47,556	2.4	44,968	4.2	1.42
September 2002	44,135	0.6	62,375	-0.1	47,213	-0.7	43,792	-2.6	1.41
October 2002	44,141	0.0	62,794	0.7	46,983	-0.5	43,911	0.3	1.42
November 2002	43,581	-1.3	63,437	1.0	46,901	-0.2	43,499	-0.9	1.46

Manufacturing industries except motor vehicle, parts and accessories.

	Shipments		Inventories		Unfilled orders		New orders	
	Seasonally adjusted							
	$ millions	% change	$ millions	% change	$ millions	% change	$ millions	% change
November 2001	33,555	0.7	59,667	-0.7	45,946	-1.0	33,074	1.5
December 2001	32,808	-2.2	59,489	-0.3	45,273	-1.5	32,135	-2.8
January 2002	34,114	4.0	58,890	-1.0	44,578	-1.5	33,419	4.0
February 2002	33,969	-0.4	58,798	-0.2	45,007	1.0	34,398	2.9
March 2002	33,955	-0.0	58,362	-0.7	45,299	0.6	34,247	-0.4
April 2002	35,103	3.4	58,431	0.1	44,970	-0.7	34,774	1.5
May 2002	35,058	-0.1	58,179	-0.4	45,046	0.2	35,135	1.0
June 2002	34,865	-0.6	58,174	0.0	45,234	0.4	35,052	-0.2
July 2002	34,846	-0.1	58,383	0.4	44,707	-1.2	34,319	-2.1
August 2002	35,261	1.2	58,914	0.9	45,663	2.1	36,218	5.5
September 2002	35,728	1.3	58,862	-0.1	45,282	-0.8	35,347	-2.4
October 2002	35,770	0.1	59,349	0.8	45,137	-0.3	35,626	0.8
November 2002	35,410	-1.0	59,844	0.8	45,137	0.0	35,410	-0.6

■

OTHER RELEASES

Natural gas sales

November 2002 (preliminary)

Natural gas sales totalled 6 732 million cubic metres in November, up 12.3% from November 2001. All three sectors (residential, commercial and industrial) recorded higher sales. Colder-than-normal weather conditions throughout most of Canada resulted in sharply higher sales to the residential (+16.3%) and commercial (+21.0%) sectors. Sales to the industrial sector (including direct sales) increased 7.8% from November 2001.

Year-to-date sales at the end of November were up 4.4% from the same period of 2001. Consumption by the residential (+6.9%) and commercial (+6.5%) sectors both rose. Industrial sector sales (including direct sales) posted a 2.8% increase from the same period of 2001.

Natural gas sales

	November 2002p	November 2001	November 2001 to November 2002
	Thousands of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas sales	**6 732 064**	**5 992 942**	**12.3**
Residential	1 666 157	1 432 186	16.3
Commercial	1 359 233	1 123 725	21.0
Industrial	1 762 316	1 613 618	7.8
Direct	1 944 358	1 823 413	
	Year-to-date		
	2002p	2001	2001 to 2002
	Thousands of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas sales	**62 305 152**	**59 672 242**	**4.4**
Residential	14 662 153	13 719 225	6.9
Commercial	11 480 348	10 781 700	6.5
Industrial	16 932 744	17 131 013	2.8
Direct	19 229 907	18 040 304	

p *Preliminary figures.*

Note: Since March, direct sales relating to the residential and commercial sectors have been allocated to the appropriate sectoral sale category.

Available on CANSIM: tables 129-0001 to 129-0004.

These tables will be available soon.

The November 2002 issue of *Natural gas transportation and distribution* (55-002-XIB, $13/$125) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *energ@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Pierre Després (613-951-3579; *pierre.després@statcan.ca*) or Tom Lewis (613-951-3596; *tom.lewis@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Monthly Survey of Large Retailers

November 2002

Sales in November for the group of large retailers were up 6.0% from November 2001 to $8.1 billion. Every major commodity group posted gains in November, with the exception of a small decrease in hardware and lawn and garden product sales. (All data in this release are unadjusted for seasonality and all percentages are year-over-year changes.)

Sales by commodity for the group of large retailers

	Oct. 2002r	Nov. 2001	Nov. 2002p	Nov. 2001 to Nov. 2002
	Unadjusted			
	$ millions			% change
Commodities				
Food and beverages	2,373	2,261	2,378	5.2
Clothing, footwear and accessories	1,449	1,564	1,633	4.5
Home furnishings and electronics	1,088	1,284	1,337	4.2
Health and personal care products	661	621	714	15.0
Housewares	347	344	351	2.0
Sporting and leisure goods	346	492	524	6.5
Hardware and lawn and garden products	209	231	225	-2.6
All other goods and services	846	804	892	10.9
Total	**7,320**	**7,601**	**8,055**	**6.0**

r *Revised figures.*
p *Preliminary figures.*

The strongest gain in November was seen in the health and personal care products category, which was up 15.0% from November 2001. This category has shown consistently strong year-over-year growth throughout 2002. Year-to-date sales at the end of November were 13.4% higher than in the same period of 2001. Strong sales of prescription drugs, as well as toiletries and personal care products (not including cosmetics and fragrances), have provided the impetus behind this growth throughout 2002.

The other goods and services category posted the second strongest year-over-year gain among the major commodity groups in November (+10.9%). Sales of tobacco products, gasoline, and automotive parts were the driving forces behind this increase. However, the year-over-year increase in the price of tobacco (+31.7%) and gasoline (+19.0%) accounted for all of the increase for these two commodities. Only automotive part sales (+12.4%) represented a real increase in sales by large retailers, with a 3.2% price increase.

Food and beverage sales continued to show strength in November. Sales of dairy products, fresh fruits and vegetables, and candy each grew over 10% from November 2001. Increased food sales were partly due to the higher cost of fresh vegetables (+12.9%) compared with November 2001.

Clothing, footwear and accessories rose 4.5% in November. Within this category, sales of children's clothing and both adult and children's footwear posted the strongest increases. Men's clothing sales increased 3.9%, exceeding the year-over-year growth of women's clothing for the first time since March 2002.

Note: This survey includes large retailers mainly in the food, clothing, home furnishings, electronics, sporting goods, and general merchandise sectors. These retailers represent about 38% of total annual retail sales, excluding recreational and motor vehicle dealers.

Available on CANSIM: table 080-0009.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 5027.

A data table is also available in the Canadian Statistics module of Statistics Canada's website (*www.statcan.ca*).

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; *retailinfo@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Elton Cryderman (613-951-0669; *elton.cryderman@statcan.ca*), Distributive Trades Division. ■

Stocks of frozen poultry meat

January 1, 2003 (preliminary)

Stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on January 1 totalled 55 470 metric tonnes, down 14.9% from January 2002.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0023 and 003-0024.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 3425.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandra Gielfeldt (613-951-2505; *sandy.gielfeldt@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

Crushing statistics

December 2002

Oilseed processors crushed 144 840 metric tonnes of canola in December, according to the monthly survey of crushing plants. Oil production totalled 60 568 tonnes and meal production amounted to 91 742 tonnes.

Available on CANSIM: table 001-0005.

The December 2002 issue of *Cereals and oilseeds review* (22-007-XIB, $11/$112; 22-007-XPB, $15/$149) will be available in March. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Les Macartney (613-951-8714; *les.macartney@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

Deliveries of major grains

December 2002

Data on grain deliveries are now available for December.

Available on CANSIM: table 001-0001.

The December 2002 issue of *Cereals and oilseeds review* (22-007-XIB, $11/$112; 22-007-XPB, $15/$149) will be available in March. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Susan Anderson (613-951-3859; *sue.anderson@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

Construction type plywood

November 2002

Data on construction type plywood are now available for November.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0005.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 2138.

The November 2002 issue of *Construction type plywood*, Vol. 50, no. 11 (35-001-XIB, $5/$47) is now available. See *How to order products*.

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 ■

Demographic statistics

October 1, 2002 (preliminary estimates)

Preliminary postcensal population estimates as of October 1, 2002, as well as updated estimates for 1999 to 2002, are now available for Canada, the provinces and the territories using updated birth, death and migration statistics as they become available.

Note: These estimates are based on the 1996 Census counts adjusted for net undercoverage and do not take into account the population counts determined by the 2001 Census, which were released on March 12, 2002. The 2001 Census coverage studies will be completed in 2003. Their results will be used to adjust the 2001 Census counts and to update the population estimates. These new estimates will be released in September 2003.

Available on CANSIM: tables 051-0005, 051-0006, 051-0008, 051-0009, 051-0017, 051-0020 and 053-0001.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3231, 3232, 3233 and 3601.

These estimates appear in *Quarterly demographic statistics* (91-002-XIB, $8/$25; 91-002-XPB, $10/$33), which will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

To order data, contact Colette O’Meara (613-951-2320; fax: 613-951-2307; *colette.omeara@statcan.ca*) or the nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre. For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Daniel Larrivée (613-951-0694; fax: 613-951-2307; *daniel.larrivee@statcan.ca*), Demography Division. ■

Coal and coke statistics

September and October 2002

Data on coal and coke for September and October are now available.

Available on CANSIM: tables 303-0016 and 303-0017.

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; *energ@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey

February to June 2002

The prevalence of smoking continues to decline overall, according to the latest results of the Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey.

In the first half of 2002, an estimated 5.4 million people — 21% of the population aged 15 and older — smoked either daily or occasionally. About 23% of men smoked, slightly higher than the proportion of women (about 20%).

Smoking rates for youth have begun to fall in recent years, and the results in the first half of 2002 continued to support this trend: 22% of teens aged 15 to 19 reported that they smoked, down from 28% in 1999. This amounts to 24% of teen girls, compared with 20% of teen boys.

The prevalence of smoking among young adults aged 20 to 24 has also recently been declining, down to 31% from 35% in 1999. However, this age group still has the highest smoking rate of any age group. There is little difference between the smoking rates of men and women aged 20 to 24.

Not only are fewer Canadians smoking, but they are also smoking less. In 1985, daily smokers consumed on average 21 cigarettes each day. Since then, the number of cigarettes smoked has been gradually but steadily declining to about 16 a day in the first half of 2002. Men continued to smoke more than women: 18 cigarettes a day, compared with an average of 15 a day smoked by women.

Once again, the lowest smoking rates were in British Columbia and Ontario, where about 17% and 19% of those aged 15 and older were smokers, respectively. The highest rates were in Quebec (27%) and in Newfoundland and Labrador (25%).

Of women aged 20 to 44 who were pregnant in the five years prior to the survey, 12% smoked regularly during their most recent pregnancy. However, this was down from 19% reported in the 1995 Survey on Smoking in Canada. As well, in the first half of 2002, 14% had a spouse who smoked regularly at home during their most recent pregnancy.

The Canadian Tobacco Use Monitoring Survey, conducted since 1999 by Statistics Canada on behalf of Health Canada, provides timely, reliable and continuous data on tobacco use and related issues. The survey's primary objective is to track changes in smoking status and amount smoked, especially for 15- to 24-year-olds, who are most at risk for taking up smoking. Data cited from before 1999 has been derived from other surveys. This wave, conducted from February to June 2002, collected data from about 11,400 respondents.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 4440.

For more information about the survey results, contact Jirina Vlk (613-957-2988; *jirina_vlk@hc-sc.gc.ca*), Health Canada, or visit the Tobacco Control Programme website (*www.gosmokefree.ca/ctums*).

For information on the public-use microdata file, contact Client Services (1-800-461-9050; 613-951-3321; fax: 613-951-4527; *ssd@statcan.ca*), Special Surveys Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Construction type plywood, November 2002, Vol. 50, no. 11
Catalogue number 35-001-XIB ($5/$47).

Quarterly telecommunications statistics, Third quarter 2002, Vol. 26, no. 3
Catalogue number 56-002-XIE ($21/$40).

Wholesale trade, November 2002, Vol. 65, no. 11
Catalogue number 63-008-XIB ($14/$140).

Canadian international merchandise trade, November 2002, Vol. 56, no. 11
Catalogue number 65-001-XIB ($14/$141).

Canadian international merchandise trade, November 2002, Vol. 56, no. 11
Catalogue number 65-001-XPB ($19/$188).

Imports by commodity, November 2002, Vol. 59, no. 11
Catalogue number 65-007-XMB ($37/$361).

Imports by commodity, November 2002, Vol. 59, no. 11
Catalogue number 65-007-XPB ($78/$773).

2001 Census results teacher's kit, 2001 Census
Catalogue number 92F0192XIE
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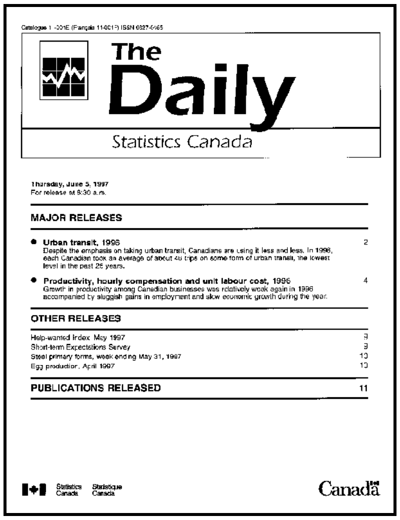

Catalogue 11-001E (Français 11-001F) ISSN 0827-0465

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1996** 2
  Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 46 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4
  Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

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Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-H, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

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