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MAJOR RELEASES

OTHER RELEASES

NEW PRODUCTS

MAJOR RELEASES

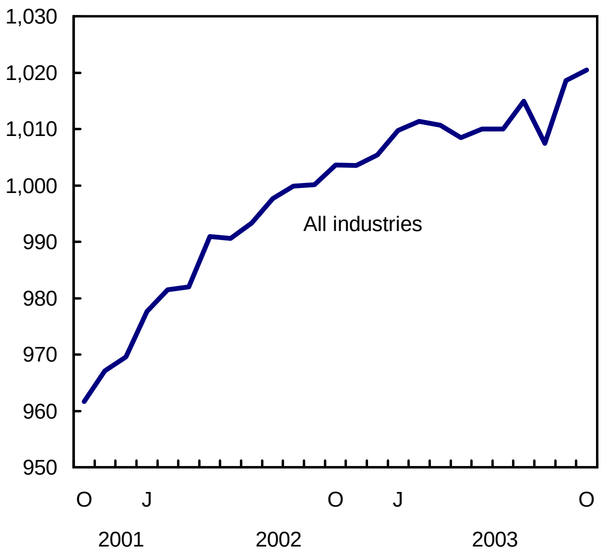
Gross domestic product by industry

October 2003

The economy edged up 0.2% in October following a surge of 1.1% in September.

GDP up slightly

GDP billions of chained $ (1997)



Improved consumer confidence was responsible for much of the increase in economic activity in October. Continuing strong consumer demand and a hot housing market translated into higher activity levels for a number of industries. Retailers and wholesalers alike benefited from increased customer traffic. New home builders and real estate agents and brokers profited from the continuing housing boom. Increased consumer spending on travel-related services boosted the industries in the travel and tourism sector.

An improved grain harvest resulted in a better year not only for farmers, but also for those industries involved in the storage and distribution of grains. The energy sector (see definition at the end of the release) flattened after two significant months of decline. However, lower activity levels were reported for animal production and fishing. The finance sector was negatively affected by fewer new bond offerings and lower business lending.

Industrial production inched up 0.1%, following a surge in September. Higher mining output more than offset lower utilities, while output of the manufacturing sector edged up slightly. The mining sector benefited from higher production of nickel and diamonds as well as continuing expansion in the exploration for oil and gas. Reduced nuclear and hydro electricity generation characterized the utilities sector. By way of comparison, the Index of Industrial Production in the United States increased 0.3% in October, as higher utilities output there offset declines in the manufacturing and mining sectors.

Note to readers

In September 2002 (Reference Month: July 2002), the monthly gross domestic product (GDP) by industry program introduced the first stage of conversion to a Chain Fisher formula, by adopting annual chained Input–Output benchmarks in its calculation of real GDP for 1997 to 2000. However, from January 2001 onwards, the data are 2000 Laspeyres-based estimates. The monthly GDP results are expressed in chained 1997 dollars. This conversion brings the monthly GDP by industry estimates more in line with the quarterly expenditure-based GDP data, chained quarterly. For more information, see Chain Fisher Volume Index page on our website.

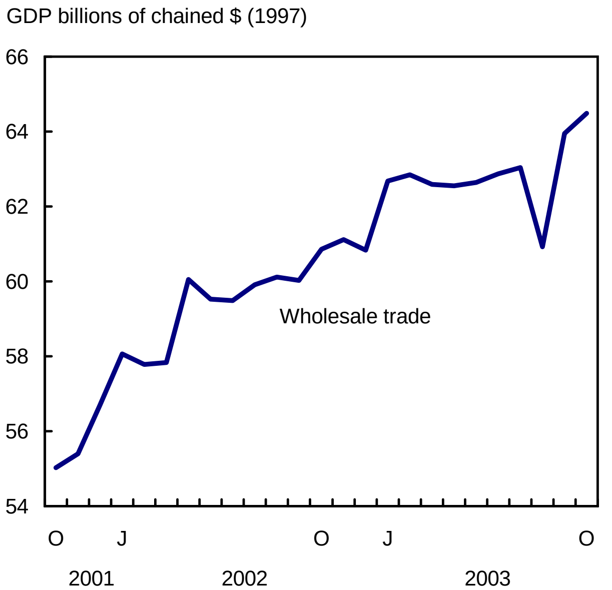
Revisions

With this release of monthly GDP by industry, revisions have been made back to January 2003.

Wholesaling strength continues

Wholesalers further expanded activity on the heels of a strong September. Wholesaling of computers was up strongly, reflecting recent increases in office machines and equipment imports. Automotive wholesalers benefited from higher motor vehicle parts production as well as from significantly higher imports of motor vehicles, as retailers attempted to replenish low inventory levels.

Wholesaling up strongly



Wholesalers of grain posted higher activity levels in the last three months, resulting from a better crop year. This improved situation spilled over into a number of other industries. The farm product warehousing and storage industry had a banner year with activity levels up 19% in the past year. Manufacturers of pesticides and fertilizers raised production 29% since January. Much of this increase, however, was due to greater pesticide demand to combat a grasshopper infestation this past summer. Agricultural support activities were up 9.4% since the beginning of 2003.

Confident consumers boost economy

Improved consumer confidence translated into higher retailing activity after a couple of weak months. Retailers registered a gain of 0.6% in October, with especially strong sales at grocery stores.

Strong consumer confidence and historically low mortgage rates continued to fuel the housing boom. New-home construction advanced a further 0.8% in October; production is now up nearly 9% since January. The strength in October is attributable to a burst in multiple-unit construction in Ontario. Increased sales in the resale housing market also propelled the services output of real estate agents and brokerage firms up 2.0%. Wholesalers and retailers of furniture continued to enjoy the benefits from the housing boom.

Higher consumer spending positively affected production in the travel-related industries. The travel and tourism sector benefited from a stronger domestic economy as well as a 2.6% increase in the number of international tourists. The hotel and accommodations industry surged 4.5%, as occupancy rates continued to improve from their lows registered in April; however, output of this industry remained 3.8% below year-ago levels. Restaurant business was up 0.8%, the fourth consecutive monthly gain, bringing output back to the level it attained a year earlier. The gambling industry grew a further 4.3% on strong sales of lottery tickets. Air transportation increased 1.8%, up 7.9% from the lows reached in May; however, it remained 13% below August 2001 levels, as it has yet to fully recover from the impact of September 11, 2001. Travel agents and brokers reported an increase of 1.2% over September, but output remained 4.2% below the October 2002 level.

Manufacturers report slight gain

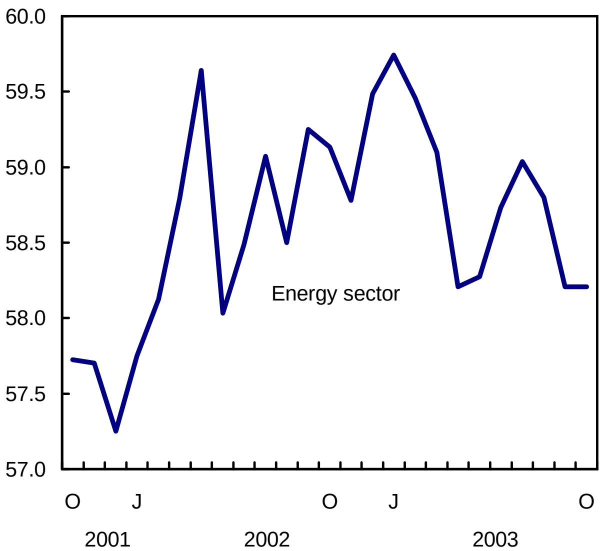
Manufacturers reported a slight gain of 0.1%, as increased production of primary and fabricated metal products, food and wood products was offset by a significant drop in the production of motor vehicles, computers and clothing. Iron and steel mills increased output 6.7%, in light of a 9.3% rise in export demand for primary iron and steel and 6.9% for steel bars and rods. Non-ferrous metal smelting and refining industry surged 5.7% as nickel processing returned to pre-strike levels. Meat processors expanded production levels 10.3% in October as the United States, Mexico and Russia partially re-opened their borders to some Canadian meat products in September. Output levels in this industry have now returned to pre-mad-cow levels. Sawmills and plywood producers boosted production despite lower lumber prices, which fell as the threat of forest fires in British Columbia diminished.

New energy sector aggregate

This month a new aggregate of energy-related industries is included in the statistical table. This "energy sector" includes the following industries: oil and gas extraction (NAICS 211), coal mining (NAICS 2121), other metal ore mining (NAICS 21229), exploration and drilling (NAICS 213), electric power (NAICS 2211), natural gas distribution (NAICS 2212), petroleum refineries (NAICS 3241) and pipeline transportation (NAICS 486).

New energy sector aggregate

GDP billions chained $ (1997)



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

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

The October 2003 issue of *Gross Domestic Product by Industry* (15-001-XIE, $12/$118) will be available soon. A print-on-demand version is available at a different price. See *How to order products*.

Data on gross domestic product by industry for November will be released on January 30, 2004.

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 Jo Ann MacMillan (613-951-7248), Industry Measures and Analysis Division.

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

	May 2003[r]	June 2003[r]	July 2003[r]	August 2003[r]	September 2003[r]	October 2003[p]	October 2003	October 2002 to October 2003
	seasonally adjusted							
	month-to-month % change						$ level[1]	% change
All Industries	**0.2**	**-0.0**	**0.5**	**-0.7**	**1.1**	**0.2**	**1,020,439**	**1.7**
Goods-producing industries	**-0.1**	**-0.8**	**0.8**	**-0.6**	**1.7**	**0.1**	**318,991**	**0.9**
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	-0.5	-0.5	1.3	-0.9	1.2	-0.3	23,456	8.3
Mining and oil and gas extraction	1.3	1.1	0.6	-0.2	1.8	0.6	37,422	6.3
Utilities	-0.3	-1.7	1.9	-0.7	-1.7	-0.7	25,038	-7.9
Construction	0.5	-0.2	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.2	55,222	4.5
Manufacturing	-0.7	-1.5	0.6	-1.1	2.5	0.1	176,439	-1.4
Services-producing industries	**0.3**	**0.4**	**0.3**	**-0.8**	**0.8**	**0.2**	**702,914**	**2.1**
Wholesale trade	0.1	0.4	0.3	-3.4	5.0	0.8	64,487	6.0
Retail trade	0.8	0.4	0.7	-0.1	-1.0	0.6	56,566	2.1
Transportation and warehousing	-0.8	0.0	0.8	-1.8	0.6	0.1	45,930	-1.9
Information and cultural industries	0.3	0.3	-0.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.9	41,641	0.1
Finance, insurance and real estate	0.6	0.7	0.5	-0.1	0.4	0.0	206,788	2.6
Professional, scientific and technical services	0.2	0.1	0.2	-0.4	0.6	0.4	44,990	2.9
Administrative and waste management services	-0.0	0.7	0.7	-0.6	0.3	0.6	22,439	2.9
Education services	-0.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.6	-0.3	-0.3	45,246	-0.8
Health care and social assistance	0.3	0.4	0.2	-0.0	0.3	0.2	61,380	3.8
Arts, entertainment and recreation	0.6	1.1	0.2	-3.8	2.9	1.0	9,440	5.4
Accommodation and food services	1.4	0.6	0.6	1.0	-0.1	2.0	23,008	-1.3
Other services (except public administration)	0.1	-0.1	0.3	-0.6	0.8	0.4	24,302	1.3
Public administration	-0.1	0.1	0.1	-2.7	2.9	0.1	57,687	1.5
Other aggregations								
Industrial production	-0.2	-1.0	0.8	-0.8	1.9	0.1	240,631	-0.3
Non-durable manufacturing industries	-0.5	-1.1	0.4	-1.2	2.1	0.1	72,803	-0.7
Durable manufacturing industries	-0.8	-1.9	0.8	-1.0	2.8	0.0	103,543	-1.8
Business sector industries	0.2	-0.0	0.6	-0.7	1.1	0.2	865,001	1.8
Non-business sector industries	0.0	0.2	0.0	-1.2	1.1	-0.0	155,598	1.2
Information and communication technologies (ICT) industries	0.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	0.7	-0.5	56,427	1.1
Enegy sector	0.1	0.8	0.5	-0.4	-1.0	-0.0	58,208	-1.6

r *Revised figures.*
p *Preliminary figures.*
1 *Millions of dollars at annual rate.*

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Wholesale trade

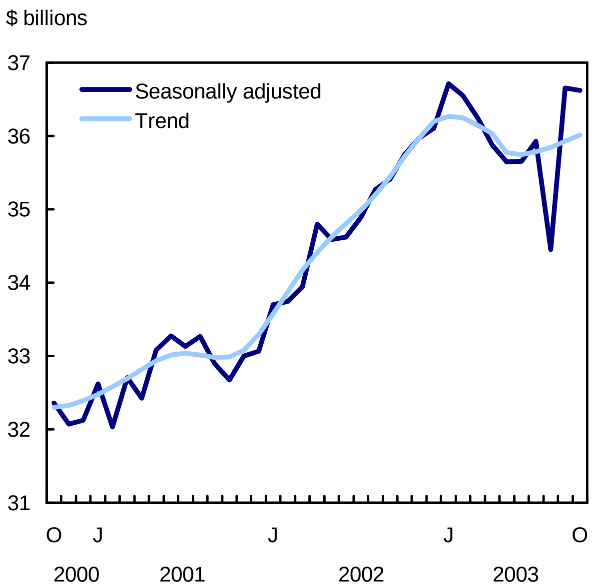
October 2003

Wholesale sales remained essentially unchanged in October (-0.1%), when wholesalers sold $36.6 billion worth of goods and services. This followed a strong 6.4% rebound in wholesale sales in September. August had been particularly weak because of the power blackout in Ontario.

Since February, sales had generally trended downwards, until levelling out by the beginning of summer. Prior to February, wholesale sales had a good stretch of growth extending back to the fall of 2001. Compared with the same period in 2002, wholesale sales have increased 3.1% during the first ten months of 2003.

Only 4 of the 11 wholesale trade sectors reported an increase in sales in October, with the largest gains registered by the computer and electronic equipment sector (+3.4%) and the "other products" category (+1.7%). Lumber and building materials (-3.7%) and industrial machinery (-1.0%) reported the largest declines.

Wholesale sales unchanged in October



In constant price, wholesale sales rose 0.6% in October.

Note to readers

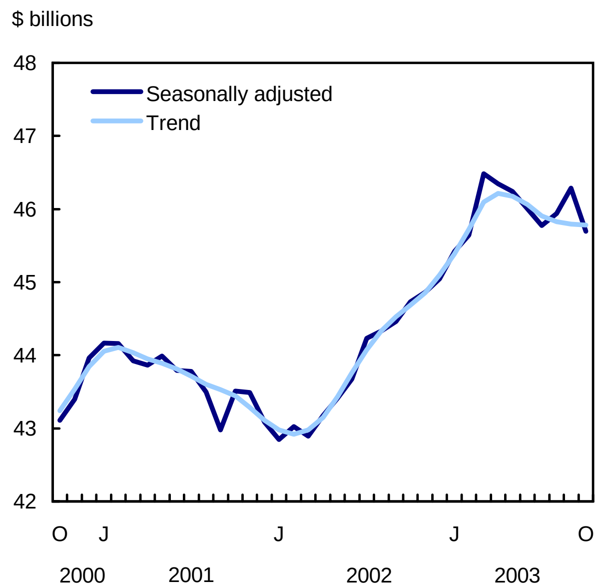
Estimates from the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey are classified according to the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification.

Inventories down sharply in October

Inventory levels declined for the fifth time in seven months. The total value of wholesale inventories in October fell sharply (-1.3%) to $45.7 billion. This is the lowest level since February and the sharpest decrease reported since April 1999. These results were attributable to substantial reductions in the industrial machinery and lumber and building materials sectors.

The decline in the level of inventories also caused the inventory-to-sales ratio to decline, slipping from 1.26 in September to 1.25 in October. At the beginning of the year, the ratio had generally been rising. It peaked in August, following a sharp contraction in sales. For the past two months, the ratio has posted levels similar to 2002, a year in which wholesalers registered the lowest ratios ever reported.

Inventories fall sharply in October



Second consecutive monthly increase for computers and electronic products

After an increase of 2.3% in September, wholesale sales of computers and electronic products showed another gain in October (+3.4%). Even so, they have still not made up for the effects of the power blackout in August. After a period of contraction at the start of the year, this sector appears to have started climbing again in recent months.

Sales of lumber and building materials decline

Wholesale sales of lumber and building materials registered a 3.7% drop in October. This was attributable in part to the decrease of international demand accompanied by a decrease in lumber prices. Sales in this sector have grown substantially since June after having levelled out during the previous nine months.

Double dip for industrial machinery wholesalers

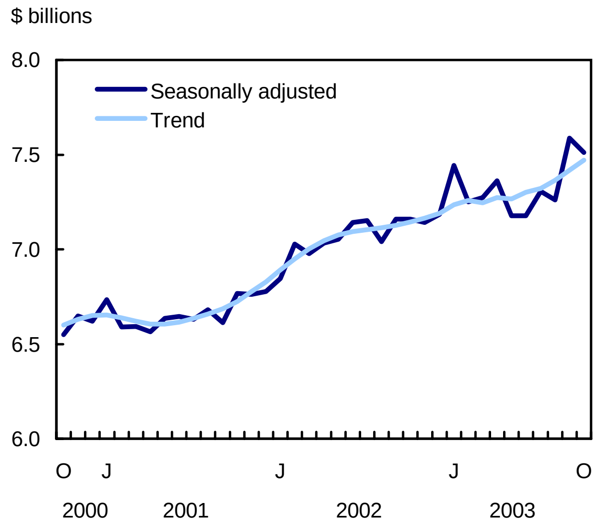
Wholesalers of industrial machinery registered decreases in sales (-1.0%) and inventories (-2.3%) in October. This sector enjoyed steady growth during the third quarter, partly owing to low interest rates, which, when combined with a strong Canadian dollar, favoured investment in imported large machinery. The industrial machinery wholesale sector ranks fourth in sales and first in inventories.

Five provinces register an increase in October

The largest increases at the provincial level occurred in New Brunswick (+2.9%) and Alberta (+1.9%). New Brunswick wholesalers mainly benefited from increased sales in the beverage, drug and tobacco sector, as well as in the automotive sector. Alberta wholesalers reported increased sales in food products, and in computers and electronic products.

The provinces that saw the largest declines were Manitoba (-1.9%) and Quebec (-1.0%). The decline registered in Manitoba was largely attributable to the "other products" category. Quebec showed a sizable drop in metals and hardware. While slight, Quebec wholesale sales have generally been rising since October 2001.

Despite the drop in October, wholesale sales in Quebec have been generally on the rise since October 2001



Available on CANSIM: tables 081-0001 and 081-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.

The October 2003 issue of *Wholesale Trade* (63-008-XIB, $15/$150) will be available shortly. See *How to order products*.

Data on wholesale sales for November will be released on January 26, 2004.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; *wholesaleinfo@statcan.ca*). To enquire about concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jean Lebreux (613-951-4907), Distributive Trades Division.

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Wholesale merchants' sales and inventories

	October 2002	July 2003^r	August 2003^r	September 2003^r	October 2003^p	September to October 2003	October 2002 to October 2003
	seasonally adjusted						
	$ millions					% change	
Sales, all trade groups	**35,747**	**35,930**	**34,450**	**36,651**	**36,621**	**-0.1**	**2.4**
Food products	5,700	5,717	5,645	5,720	5,694	-0.4	-0.1
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	2,965	3,368	3,356	3,456	3,489	0.9	17.7
Apparel and dry goods	635	662	662	677	663	-1.9	4.5
Household goods	1,025	1,041	1,015	1,045	1,039	-0.5	1.4
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	7,294	6,445	5,426	6,732	6,757	0.4	-7.4
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	2,144	2,054	1,993	2,109	2,077	-1.5	-3.2
Lumber and building materials	2,873	3,011	3,050	3,220	3,101	-3.7	7.9
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	665	794	680	679	659	-3.0	-1.0
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	4,866	5,142	4,895	5,119	5,070	-1.0	4.2
Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery	2,697	2,878	2,659	2,721	2,813	3.4	4.3
Other products	4,883	4,820	5,068	5,174	5,260	1.7	7.7
Sales by province and territory							
Newfoundland and Labrador	232	229	229	230	230	-0.1	-0.8
Prince Edward Island	56	62	64	64	64	-0.1	12.8
Nova Scotia	626	626	631	639	648	1.3	3.5
New Brunswick	450	460	437	442	455	2.9	1.2
Quebec	7,159	7,307	7,260	7,588	7,512	-1.0	4.9
Ontario	18,134	18,076	16,721	18,312	18,252	-0.3	0.6
Manitoba	1,052	1,021	984	1,006	986	-1.9	-6.3
Saskatchewan	1,027	987	961	1,004	1,006	0.2	-2.0
Alberta	3,588	3,772	3,743	3,832	3,905	1.9	8.8
British Columbia	3,394	3,362	3,391	3,504	3,533	0.8	4.1
Yukon	9	10	11	10	10	-2.5	6.4
Northwest Territories	19	17	17	18	19	4.5	3.2
Nunavut	2	1	1	1	1	15.1	-23.7
Inventories, all trade groups	**44,732**	**45,772**	**45,941**	**46,289**	**45,697**	**-1.3**	**2.2**
Food products	3,435	3,570	3,585	3,708	3,670	-1.0	6.8
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	3,480	3,664	3,887	3,753	3,653	-2.7	5.0
Apparel and dry goods	1,298	1,368	1,357	1,356	1,362	0.5	4.9
Household goods	1,714	1,630	1,663	1,691	1,707	1.0	-0.4
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	6,638	7,221	6,965	7,205	7,107	-1.4	7.1
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	3,728	3,680	3,720	3,594	3,552	-1.2	-4.7
Lumber and building materials	4,382	4,507	4,588	4,706	4,564	-3.0	4.2
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	1,831	1,989	1,962	2,010	2,019	0.4	10.3
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	10,222	10,250	10,273	10,258	10,025	-2.3	-1.9
Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery	2,021	1,866	1,828	1,883	1,869	-0.8	-7.5
Other products	5,983	6,025	6,112	6,127	6,169	0.7	3.1

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

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OTHER RELEASES

Payroll employment, earnings and hours
October 2003 (preliminary)

The average weekly earnings of payroll employees increased slightly in October (+$2.03) to stand at $694.14.

The new level is 1.2% higher than October a year earlier. Stronger year-over-year growth in earnings occurred in public administration (+3.1%) and retail trade (+2.7%). Year-over-year declines were recorded in arts, entertainment and recreation (-3.4%), transport and warehousing (-1.7%) and information and culture (-1.2%).

Average hourly earnings for hourly-paid employees rose in October (+0.5%). Average paid hours for hourly employees declined slightly (-0.2 hours) in October to 32.1 hours per week. Hourly rates have increased 2.0% over twelve months, with earnings of workers in goods-producing sectors (+3.5%) outpacing those of employees in services (+1.5%).

The number of payroll employees for October increased sharply (+69,300), offsetting declines in August (-28,900) and September (-25,400). Gains in October were strongest in Ontario (+18,200), British Columbia (+13,000), Quebec (+11,400) and Alberta (+8,800).

By industry, employment gains were widespread with substantial gains in retail trade (+18,700), accommodation and food (+9,200), wholesale trade (+6,700), administrative and support, waste management and remediation services (+6,500), other services (+6,100) and manufacturing (+5,200).

Available on CANSIM: tables 281-0023 to 281-0046.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2612.

Detailed industry data, data by size of enterprise based on employment, and other labour market indicators will be available soon in the monthly publication *Employment, Earnings and Hours* (72-002-XIB, $26/$257). See *How to order products*.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-2869; *labour@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Robert Frindt (613-951-4069), Labour Statistics Division. □

Average weekly earnings for all employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	October 2002	September 2003r	October 2003p	September to October 2003	October 2002 to October 2003
	seasonally adjusted				
	$			% change	
Industrial aggregate	**685.83**	**692.11**	**694.14**	**0.3**	**1.2**
Forestry, logging and support	850.95	868.25	881.68	1.5	3.6
Mining and oil and gas	1,173.46	1,196.03	1,186.26	-0.8	1.1
Utilities	1,064.61	1,061.30	1,086.94	2.4	2.1
Construction	802.61	827.42	853.95	3.2	6.4
Manufacturing	837.33	840.42	844.66	0.5	0.9
Wholesale trade	784.28	791.44	797.67	0.8	1.7
Retail trade	436.89	446.79	448.85	0.5	2.7
Transportation and warehousing	769.99	758.24	757.04	-0.2	-1.7
Information and cultural industries	820.51	806.75	810.93	0.5	-1.2
Finance and insurance	861.74	870.16	875.10	0.6	1.6
Real estate and rental and leasing	604.96	603.85	619.02	2.5	2.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	906.31	913.07	916.84	0.4	1.2
Management of companies and enterprises	848.09	856.60	873.94	2.0	3.0
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	538.06	538.70	543.97	1.0	1.1
Educational Services	746.44	765.47	742.38	-3.0	-0.5
Health care and social assistance	610.12	618.50	615.85	-0.4	0.9
Arts, entertainment and recreation	432.25	409.40	417.59	2.0	-3.4
Accommodation and food services	287.44	279.88	284.77	1.7	-0.9
Other services (excluding public administration)	526.15	527.76	534.37	1.3	1.6
Public administration	842.62	863.26	868.55	0.6	3.1
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland and Labrador	625.68	627.16	621.56	-0.9	-0.7
Prince Edward Island	545.34	549.69	551.06	0.2	1.0
Nova Scotia	593.94	600.68	600.36	-0.1	1.1
New Brunswick	616.78	631.28	631.97	0.1	2.5
Quebec	650.66	656.42	664.68	1.3	2.2
Ontario	731.81	732.74	737.13	0.6	0.7
Manitoba	609.11	625.78	619.46	-1.0	1.7
Saskatchewan	614.11	635.45	625.92	-1.5	1.9
Alberta	701.40	716.32	715.58	-0.1	2.0
British Columbia	678.15	685.20	684.59	-0.1	0.9
Yukon	759.31	779.56	753.24	-3.4	-0.8
Northwest Territories[1]	894.89	902.86	896.25	-0.7	0.2
Nunavut[1]	799.42	798.67	812.46	1.7	1.6

r *Revised estimates.*
p *Preliminary estimates.*
1 *Data not seasonally adjusted.*

Number of employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	August 2003	September 2003[r]	October 2003[p]	August to September 2003	September to October 2003
	seasonally adjusted				
	'000			% change	
Industrial aggregate	**13,314.0**	**13,288.6**	**13,357.9**	**-0.2**	**0.5**
Forestry, logging and support	54.2	53.8	53.4	-0.7	-0.7
Mining and oil and gas	151.6	154.2	155.9	1.7	1.1
Utilities	115.6	115.4	115.0	-0.2	-0.3
Construction	651.0	648.2	652.9	-0.4	0.7
Manufacturing	2,033.5	2,023.8	2,029.0	-0.5	0.3
Wholesale trade	751.4	751.8	758.5	0.1	0.9
Retail trade	1,593.1	1,586.8	1,605.5	-0.4	1.2
Transportation and warehousing	608.7	605.1	601.9	-0.6	-0.5
Information and cultural industries	351.8	354.4	353.3	0.7	-0.3
Finance and insurance	573.9	571.6	571.8	-0.4	0.0
Real estate and rental and leasing	225.7	227.4	231.5	0.8	1.8
Professional, scientific and technical services	650.1	652.9	658.1	0.4	0.8
Management of companies and enterprises	90.8	90.2	90.4	-0.7	0.2
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	602.9	607.0	613.5	0.7	1.1
Educational Services	929.3	932.6	933.2	0.4	0.1
Health care and social assistance	1,371.5	1,369.8	1,373.8	-0.1	0.3
Arts, entertainment and recreation	247.1	244.2	241.7	-1.2	-1.0
Accommodation and food services	927.7	926.2	935.4	-0.2	1.0
Other services (excluding public administration)	498.8	498.5	504.6	-0.1	1.2
Public administration	777.0	773.4	767.7	-0.5	-0.7
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland and Labrador	188.3	186.9	186.8	-0.7	-0.1
Prince Edward Island	66.4	64.8	63.7	-2.4	-1.7
Nova Scotia	387.8	383.9	383.8	-1.0	0.0
New Brunswick	307.2	304.2	304.8	-1.0	0.2
Quebec	3,140.1	3,158.1	3,169.5	0.6	0.4
Ontario	5,162.4	5,158.5	5,176.7	-0.1	0.4
Manitoba	528.9	523.9	526.2	-0.9	0.4
Saskatchewan	394.4	393.6	395.8	-0.2	0.6
Alberta	1,457.5	1,454.2	1,463.0	-0.2	0.6
British Columbia	1,636.4	1,625.8	1,638.8	-0.6	0.8
Yukon	16.2	16.0	15.6	-1.2	-2.5
Northwest Territories[1]	23.1	22.4	22.3	-3.0	-0.4
Nunavut[1]	11.2	11.3	11.5	0.9	1.8

r *Revised estimates.*
p *Preliminary estimates.*
1 *Data not seasonally adjusted.*

■

For-hire motor carriers of freight, top carriers

Third quarter 2003

The top 90 for-hire motor carriers of freight (Canada-based trucking companies earning $25 million or more annually) generated operating revenues of $1.93 billion and expenses of $1.83 billion in the third quarter. As a result of the addition of seven top carriers, average per-carrier revenues and expenses decreased slightly from the third quarter of 2002. Both financial indicators decreased about 1 % recording $21.4 million and 20.3 million respectively.

The top for-hire carriers' operating ratio (operating expenses divided by operating revenues) was 0.95, compared with 0.94 in the third quarter of 2002 (a ratio of greater than 1.00 represents an operating loss).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2748.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jean-Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0579; *laroque@statcan.ca*) or Denis Pilon (613-951-2707; *denis.pilon@statcan.ca*), Transportation Division. ■

Refined petroleum products
October 2003 (Preliminary)

Data on the production, inventories and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for October. Other selected data about these products are also available.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

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*), Energy, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

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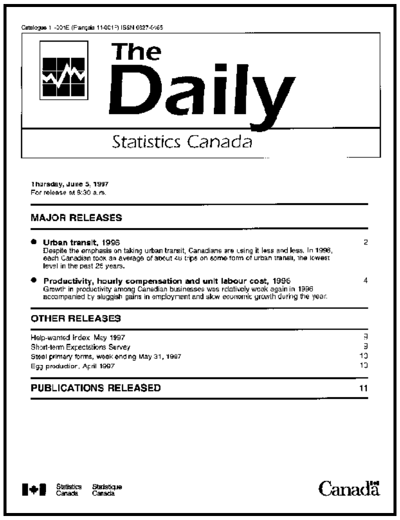

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Statistics Canada

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

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