



The Daily

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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Canadian international merchandise trade, April 2003**
 Canada's trade surplus with the rest of the world fell for the fourth time in six months in April. It was the largest decline in merchandise exports in more than two years and was almost entirely due to energy. Merchandise exports tumbled 4.5% to \$33.7 billion, while imports fell 1.3% to \$29.6 billion.

2

- **Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, April 2003**
 Following a strong first quarter, all major manufacturing indicators took a hit in April. Widespread decreases in manufacturing activity contributed to a 3.4% decline in shipments to \$43.0 billion. Inventories continued to edge up, while manufacturers reported an eighth consecutive decline in unfilled orders.

6

OTHER RELEASES

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard, March 2003	11
Fruit and vegetable production, 2003 and 2002	11
Steel primary forms — weekly data, week ending June 7, 2003	11
Export and import price indexes, April 2003	11

NEW PRODUCTS

RELEASE DATES: June 16 to 20 15



MAJOR RELEASES

Canadian international merchandise trade

April 2003

Canada's trade surplus with the rest of the world fell for the fourth time in six months in April. It was the largest decline in merchandise exports in more than two years and was almost entirely due to energy.

Canadian companies shipped exports worth \$33.7 billion, down 4.5% from March, the largest monthly decline since February 2001. Meanwhile, imports fell 1.3% to a 12-month low of \$29.6 billion.

As a result, Canada's trade surplus with the rest of the world fell from \$5.3 billion in March to \$4.1 billion in April, the lowest level since December 2002. The \$1.2 billion decline in the trade surplus was the largest since June 2002.

Note to readers

Merchandise trade is one component of the current account of Canada's balance of payments, which also includes trade in services.

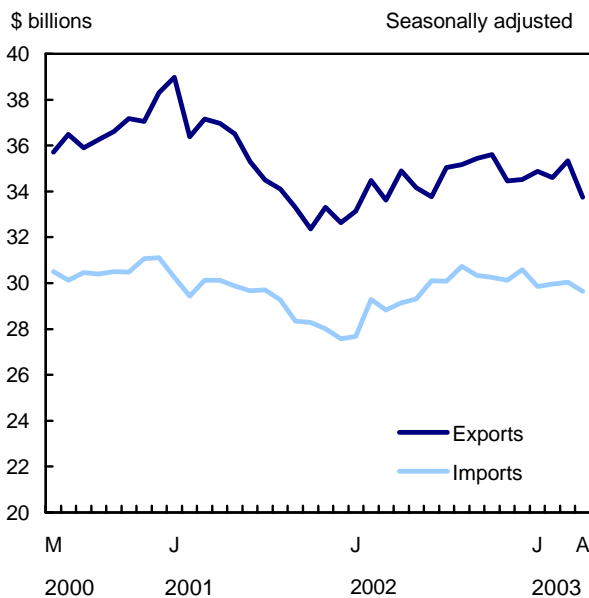
Revisions

In general, merchandise trade data are revised on an ongoing basis for each month of the current year. Customs basis data are revised for the previous data year each quarter.

Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of import and export documentation, incorrect information on customs forms, replacement of estimates with actual figures (once available), changes in classification of merchandise based on more current information, and changes to seasonal adjustment factors.

Revised data are available in the appropriate CANSIM tables.

Exports and imports



Energy exports accounted for most of the total drop in merchandise exports, as prices fell from nearly a two-year high.

Exports to the United States, which accounted for 83% of the total, fell 4.5% to \$28.1 billion, again the biggest monthly decline since February 2001. Exports to the European Union declined 6.8% to \$1.8 billion. Exports to Japan rose 3.6% to \$888 million, and exports to other OECD countries jumped 7.0% to \$1.2 billion.

Imports from the United States fell 0.8% to \$20.5 billion, accounting for most of the total drop. The trade surplus with the United States fell by \$1.1 billion to \$7.6 billion; this was an almost complete reversal from March, which saw the largest monthly increase in almost a year.

Imports from all other trading areas declined, except from other OECD countries. Canada's trade deficit with countries other than the United States was virtually unchanged in April.

Decline in exports largest in over two years

The end of colder-than-normal weather in eastern North America, as well as a resolution to the war in Iraq, eased the upward pressure that had been on energy prices in the first quarter. In April, exports of energy products dropped 18.6% to \$5.4 billion, the first decline following four straight monthly increases.

The drop in crude petroleum exports accounted for more than one-third of the decline in total exports. Crude petroleum exports reached \$1.6 billion, down 30.0% from record levels in March. While prices declined in April, the reduction in crude petroleum exports was mainly a result of weaker volumes.

Petroleum and coal products exports fell 11.1% to \$996 million after reaching three consecutive monthly record highs. With the price of natural gas falling nearly 10% from March, exports to the United States declined 12.3% to \$2.5 billion in April. Natural gas exports had risen 46.4% in the first three months of the year. Despite April's decline, exports of natural gas remained 57.6% higher than in April 2002.

Exports of automotive products fell 2.6% to \$7.3 billion in April. Exports of motor vehicle parts decreased 6.2% to \$2.2 billion, with most of the decline resulting from lower US assembly plant production. Passenger automobile exports decreased 2.9% to \$3.6 billion. Passenger auto exports, which strengthened through the first quarter of 2003, declined in April in the face of rising unemployment in the United States, which has led to softened consumer demand.

Exports of trucks and other motor vehicles rose 4.7% to \$1.4 billion. The resolution of a labour stoppage in February and part of March returned heavy truck production capacity to normal in April.

Exports of forestry products fell 1.9% in April to \$2.8 billion. Lumber and sawmill product exports fell 6.3% to \$1.2 billion, the fourth monthly decline in a row. Lumber prices have fallen steadily for the last 12 months, down by nearly one-third from April 2002. New housing starts in the United States, the main consumer of Canadian softwood, dropped 6.8% to an annualized rate of 1.6 million in April.

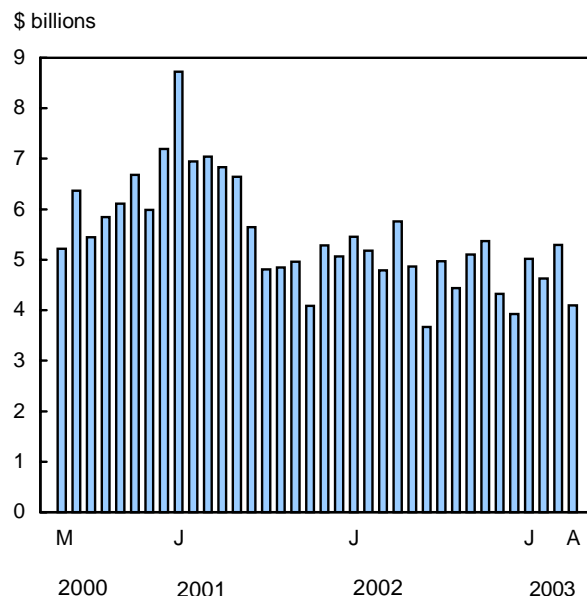
Exports in the largest sector, machinery and equipment, declined 0.5% to \$7.7 billion. Widespread declines in all machinery and equipment sub-sectors, from high-tech office equipment and telecommunications to heavy industrial and agricultural machinery, overshadowed the lone bright light in exports — aircraft and other transportation equipment. Exports of aircraft and other transportation equipment rose 8.7% to just under \$2.0 billion. This was the result of a 10.8% gain in exports of aircraft, engines and parts, which reached \$1.5 billion.

Exports of industrial goods and materials fell 0.6% to \$5.6 billion. Declines in metals and alloys and other industrial goods more than offset increases in metal ores and chemicals, plastics and fertilizers.

Wheat exports jumped 37.7% to \$204 million despite stiff competition from non-traditional wheat exporters, Russia and Ukraine. Wheat exporters have had to battle export subsidies from EU countries and the threat of US import countervailing and anti-dumping duties. This left the level in April 29.7% lower than in April 2002.

Barley and canola exports also rebounded after bottoming-out in March. Barley exports more than doubled (+163.0%) to \$8 million, still far below the pre-drought levels of around \$100 million. Canola exports increased 9.9% to \$113 million, about half the export level of a typical April.

Trade balance



Imports at lowest level in 12 months

Imports in Canada's largest import sector, machinery and equipment, decreased 3.6% to \$8.2 billion, the lowest level since March 1998. Imports of other machinery, which includes high-tech equipment, decreased 0.7% to \$3.8 billion. Aircraft and other transportation equipment imports decreased 23.1% to \$902 million. Imports of aircraft, engines and parts retreated 21.2% to just over half a billion dollars.

Automotive product imports declined 2.6% to \$6.6 billion in April. Motor vehicle parts imports destined for Canadian auto assembly plants decreased 4.2% to \$3.3 billion. The decline in the import of parts is consistent with the 4.5% decrease in auto production reported by the industry.

Imports of passenger autos fell 4.0% to \$2.2 billion, the result of a drop in domestic sales of cars in April. To cope with decreased sales and burgeoning inventories, manufacturers scaled back imports and cut production in April. Bucking the trend, imports of trucks and other motor vehicles increased 5.6% to \$1.1 billion in response to stronger domestic truck sales.

Imports of industrial goods and materials declined 2.3% to \$5.5 billion. A 6.4% reduction in imports of chemicals and plastics to \$2.1 billion accounted for most of the drop.

Imports of consumer goods rose 0.9% to a record high of \$4.0 billion. Increases in imports of pharmaceuticals, watches, sporting goods and toys offset declines in printed matter, televisions, radios, photographic goods and house furnishings.

With the cold weather and tensions in the Middle East abated in April, prices for imported energy products subsided from the record levels recorded in March. Domestic refiners took advantage of the lower prices and loaded up on crude petroleum from the North Sea. With lower prices, increased volume resulted in imports of energy products rising 6.4% to \$2.2 billion. Crude petroleum imports rose 7.5% to \$1.6 billion.

Available on CANSIM: tables 226-0001, 226-0002, 227-0001, 227-0002, 228-0001 to 228-0003 and 228-0033 to 228-0040.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The April 2003 issue of *Canadian international merchandise trade* (65-001-XIB, \$14/\$141) will be available soon. The publication will include tables by commodity and country on a customs basis. Current account data (which incorporate merchandise trade statistics, service transactions, investment income and transfers) are available quarterly in *Canada's balance of international payments* (67-001-XIB, \$29/\$93; 67-001-XPB, \$38/\$124). See *How to order products*.

Merchandise trade data are available by fax or in PDF format on the morning of release.

For more information on the publications, contact Jocelyne Elibani, (1-800-294-5583; 613-951-9647). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Daryl Keen (613-951-1810), International Trade Division.

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Merchandise trade

	March 2003 ^r	April 2003	March 2003 to April 2003	April 2002 to April 2003	January to April 2002	January to April 2003	January–April 2002 to January–April 2003
Seasonally adjusted, \$ current							
	\$ millions		% change		\$ millions		% change
Principal trading partners							
Exports							
United States	29,408	28,091	-4.5	-4.1	114,026	115,291	1.1
Japan	857	888	3.6	5.0	3,214	3,622	12.7
European Union	1,950	1,818	-6.8	-4.6	7,778	7,984	2.6
Other OECD countries ¹	1,143	1,223	7.0	17.1	4,068	4,058	-0.2
All other countries	1,977	1,721	-12.9	-6.0	7,049	7,593	7.7
Total	35,334	33,742	-4.5	-3.3	136,136	138,547	1.8
Imports							
United States	20,698	20,523	-0.8	-1.8	83,139	83,521	0.5
Japan	999	917	-8.2	-10.1	3,786	3,750	-1.0
European Union	3,207	3,055	-4.7	1.3	11,250	12,412	10.3
Other OECD countries ¹	1,849	1,912	3.4	21.6	6,205	7,260	17.0
All other countries	3,285	3,240	-1.4	23.1	10,578	12,564	18.8
Total	30,038	29,646	-1.3	1.7	114,958	119,507	4.0
Balance							
United States	8,710	7,568	...	...	30,887	31,770	...
Japan	-142	-29	...	...	-572	-128	...
European Union	-1,257	-1,237	...	...	-3,472	-4,428	...
Other OECD countries ¹	-706	-689	...	...	-2,137	-3,202	...
All other countries	-1,308	-1,519	...	...	-3,529	-4,971	...
Total	5,297	4,094	...	...	21,178	19,040	...
Principal commodity groupings							
Exports							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,509	2,524	0.6	-1.5	10,434	10,041	-3.8
Energy products	6,652	5,415	-18.6	25.6	14,254	23,191	62.7
Forestry products	2,835	2,781	-1.9	-14.0	12,867	11,418	-11.3
Industrial goods and materials	5,585	5,552	-0.6	-5.3	23,142	22,364	-3.4
Machinery and equipment	7,698	7,658	-0.5	-4.1	32,586	31,251	-4.1
Automotive products	7,476	7,282	-2.6	-11.8	32,136	29,915	-6.9
Other consumer goods	1,449	1,418	-2.1	-2.9	5,890	5,817	-1.2
Special transactions trade ²	654	660	0.9	-2.7	2,660	2,628	-1.2
Other balance of payments adjustments	475	453	-4.6	-18.8	2,167	1,921	-11.4
Imports							
Agricultural and fishing products	1,859	1,867	0.4	5.5	7,162	7,441	3.9
Energy products	2,053	2,185	6.4	74.9	4,654	7,589	63.1
Forestry products	259	255	-1.5	-5.2	1,014	1,038	2.4
Industrial goods and materials	5,606	5,475	-2.3	-2.7	22,512	22,797	1.3
Machinery and equipment	8,509	8,203	-3.6	-6.0	34,573	33,761	-2.3
Automotive products	6,796	6,622	-2.6	-2.1	25,986	26,984	3.8
Other consumer goods	3,970	4,005	0.9	7.3	14,963	15,883	6.1
Special transactions trade ²	457	494	8.1	1.6	2,023	1,872	-7.5
Other balance of payments adjustments	530	540	1.9	4.7	2,074	2,144	3.4

^r Revised figures

... Figures not appropriate or not applicable.

¹ Includes Australia, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, Poland, South Korea, Hungary, Czech Republic and Slovakia.

² These are mainly low valued transactions, value of repairs to equipment, and goods returned to country of origin.

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing

April 2003

Following a strong first quarter, all major manufacturing indicators took a hit in April. Widespread decreases in manufacturing activity contributed to a 3.4% decline in shipments to \$43.0 billion. Inventories continued to edge up, while manufacturers reported an eighth consecutive decline in unfilled orders. As a result, the inventory-to-shipment ratio, a barometer measuring manufacturers' abilities to clear their inventories, hit 1.49 in April from 1.43 in March, the highest level since December 2001.

Most industries tighten shipments in April

Fifteen of 21 industries, representing 68% of total shipments, pulled back production in April, underscored by the steep decline in prices of petroleum and coal products, coupled with the second drop in three months for the motor vehicle industry. Excluding the price-impacted petroleum and coal products industry and the recently volatile motor vehicle and parts industries, shipments contracted by 1.5% in April.

Decreases in the non-durable goods sector outpaced the decline reported by durable goods manufacturers. Lower shipments of petroleum products contributed to a 4.3% drop to \$18.8 billion in the non-durable goods sector, the lowest level since November. Shipments of big-ticket, durable goods declined 2.7% to \$24.2 billion in April. This follows a relatively strong first quarter.

Several extenuating circumstances affecting manufacturers

The resilience exhibited by the Canadian manufacturing sector since the start of 2002 will be put to the test in the months to come. The recent surge in the value of the Canadian dollar, coupled with the ongoing weakness of the US economy, may impact manufacturers that are highly dependent on export markets.

Additionally, the anticipation of the war in Iraq in the months leading up to April contributed to record high petroleum prices and, subsequently, to the price-inflated value of shipments for petroleum and coal products. As the war effort drew to a swift close, petroleum prices fell substantially, lessening the impact of the price-effect on manufacturing overall.

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.

Although the outbreak of the SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) virus in Toronto posed a significant blow to the health care and hospitality sectors, the impact on Canadian manufacturing seems to have been negligible to date.

Ontario leads provinces with lower shipments

Seven provinces, led by Ontario, reported lower shipments in April. Decreases in motor vehicle and parts manufacturing, as well as in petroleum, contributed to a decline of almost \$1 billion (-4.0%) in Ontario's shipments.

Petroleum and chemical products manufacturing contributed to a \$308 million (-7.9%) drop in Alberta's shipments in April. Shipments were \$3.6 billion, the lowest since October 2002. Manufacturers in Quebec posted a \$128 million (-1.3%) decline, which was concentrated in the petroleum and coal products industry.

Shipments by province and territory

	March 2003	April 2003	March to April 2003
Seasonally adjusted			
	\$ millions		% change
Newfoundland and Labrador	182	185	1.4
Prince Edward Island	108	107	-0.3
Nova Scotia	777	730	-6.0
New Brunswick	1,194	1,092	-8.6
Quebec	10,206	10,078	-1.3
Ontario	23,740	22,799	-4.0
Manitoba	982	995	1.3
Saskatchewan	615	623	1.2
Alberta	3,875	3,567	-7.9
British Columbia	2,808	2,792	-0.6
Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut	6	6	3.3

Manufacturing employment unchanged in May

Manufacturing employment was largely unchanged in May, according to the latest results of the Labour Force Survey. Employment edged down 0.1% in May, following declines in April (-0.3%) and March (-1.6%). Although May's level remained intact, manufacturing employment has been on a downward trend since August 2002 with 65,000 (-2.7%) fewer employees on the payrolls.

US manufacturing also hit in April

Manufacturing activity in the United States fell 2.2% in April, the largest percent decline in 14 months. April's decrease wiped out all the gains reported in March (+1.6%).

Similar to the situation in Canada, much of April's drop in the US was concentrated in nondurable goods industries. A 19.3% drop in shipments of petroleum and coal products contributed to a 3.5% fall in the nondurable goods sector. Manufacturers of durable goods reported a 0.9% decline in April, as a result of lower shipment activity in the transportation equipment sector.

The petroleum industry leads widespread declines

Shipments of petroleum and coal products fell sharply in April, plunging 19.2% to \$2.9 billion, the lowest level since November.

In the months prior to the war in Iraq, global apprehension regarding the safeguarding of adequate supplies of oil and gas contributed to a record run-up in petroleum prices. But following the war and the return of Venezuelan production, petroleum and coal product prices declined 9.7% in April, contributing to a significant decrease in the value of shipments.

In addition to price effects, some manufacturers noted that their plants were temporarily closed for annual maintenance in April. Others reported a general decline in demand for petroleum products during the month, all factors contributing to the sharp drop in April's shipments.

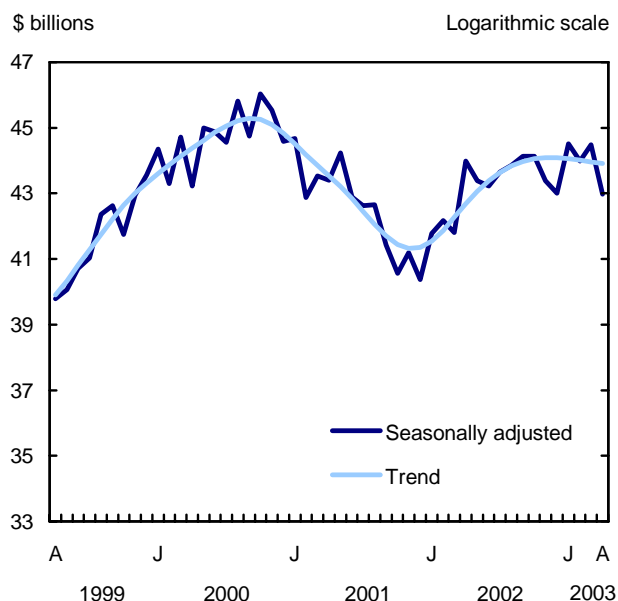
Motor vehicle and parts manufacturing weaken

In April, manufacturers of motor vehicles and parts put the brakes on new shipments. Manufacturing of motor vehicle parts fell 6.8% to \$2.5 billion, the third decline in a row. Slowing demand for motor vehicles in the United States and a backlog of inventories have contributed to the recent slowdown in shipments.

Motor vehicle manufacturing decreased 2.7% to \$5.5 billion in April, losing half the ground gained in March (+5.9%). Ongoing uncertainty regarding the state of the US economy, lower retail sales of motor vehicles, and the sheer volume of new automobiles currently on the road, contributed to April's decline in shipments and the volatility of recent months. Despite the drop in April, motor vehicle shipments in the first four months of 2003 are up 0.5% from the same period in 2002.

The chemical and machinery industries also reported lower shipments in April. Chemical manufacturing fell 3.5% to \$3.3 billion, partly because of lower industrial prices of chemicals and petroleum. Meanwhile, shipments of machinery decreased 4.3% to \$1.9 billion.

Widespread decreases pull down shipments in April



Inventories rise for the third month in a row

Finished-product inventories, which have been trending up since August 2002, contributed to a 0.6% rise in total inventories in April. Manufacturers' inventories hit \$64.1 billion, the highest level since August 2001, when economies were affected by the high-tech crash and general economic malaise.

Inventories have been on a gradual rise since the summer of 2002. As of April, inventories were up 4.0% from June 2002 (\$61.6 billion), the most recent low for inventories.

Finished-product inventories surpass \$20 billion

Finished-product inventories jumped 1.2% to \$20.1 billion in April, the third consecutive monthly increase. Finished-product inventories remain just short of June 2001's record high of \$20.2 billion. The recent accumulation of finished-product inventories may be a sign of weakening demand, partly the result of ongoing economic uncertainty of Canada's largest trading partner, the United States.

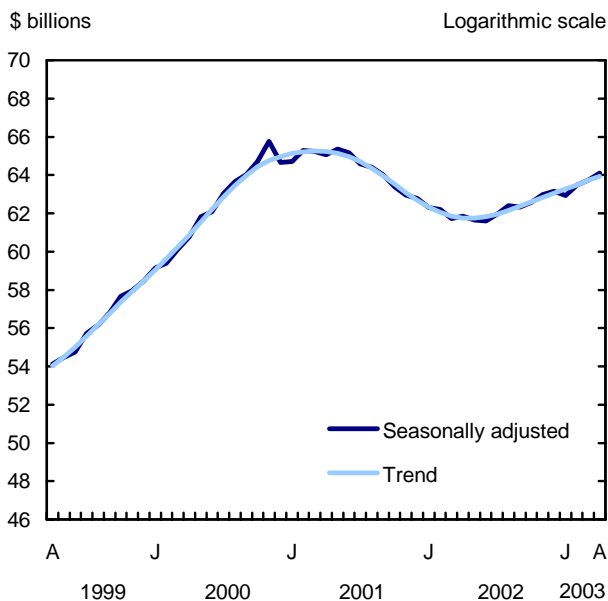
of \$1.7 billion, up 5.3% and the highest level since September 2001. Aerospace products and parts inventories increased 1.0% to \$8.0 billion, led by a jump in finished-product inventories. Meanwhile, uncertainty in motor vehicle manufacturing contributed to a 3.8% rise in inventories of motor vehicle parts. The industry has been on an upward trend since January 2002.

The inventory-to-shipment ratio soars in April

Rising inventories combined with a steep decline in shipments lifted the inventory-to-shipment ratio to 1.49, the highest level since December 2001 (1.55). The inventory-to-shipment ratio had remained relatively stable around 1.43 in the first quarter. A higher ratio indicates some difficulty by manufacturers to clear inventories as a result of weakening demand.

Higher finished-product inventories contributed to an increase in the finished-product inventory-to-shipment ratio from 0.45 to 0.47 in April. The ratio was at the highest level since the economic downturn of 2001. The ratio is a measure of the time that would be required in order to exhaust finished-product inventories if shipments were to remain at their current level.

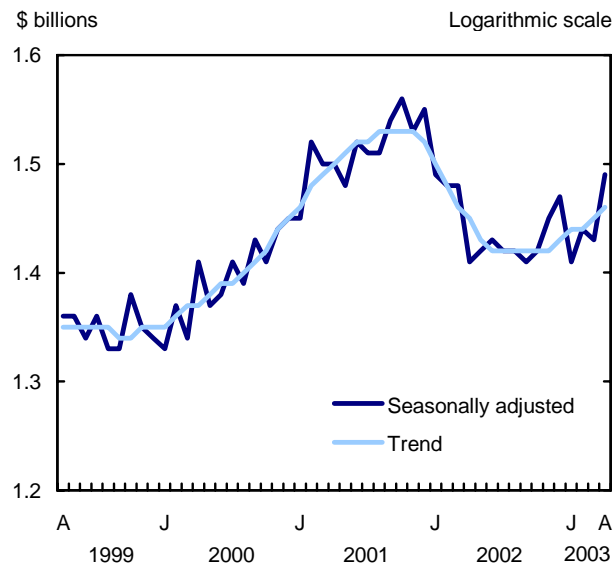
Inventories continue to accumulate



Manufacturers also boosted goods-in-process inventories by 0.7% to \$16.1 billion. Meanwhile, raw materials were largely unchanged at \$27.8 billion.

Inventory increases were widespread in April. Among the primary contributors, the petroleum and coal products industry reported inventories

The inventory-to-shipment ratio climbs to a 16-month high



Unfilled orders decline for the eighth straight month

Unfilled orders, which fell 1.9% to \$41.8 billion in April, have been declining since summer 2002, confirming manufacturers' concerns reported in

April's Business Conditions Survey. In April, 26% of manufacturers indicated that their level of unfilled orders was lower than normal. The heightened uncertainty concerning orders was evident in the transportation equipment, computer and electronic products and primary metals industries.

Ongoing instability among the world's airlines contributed to further declines in unfilled orders for the aerospace products and parts industry. Orders fell back 3.7% to \$13.2 billion, the 19th consecutive decrease for the aerospace industry.

Also reporting fewer unfilled orders in April were the computer and electronic products industry (-3.6%), machinery (-1.7%) and fabricated metal products (-4.0%).

New orders decline in April

Following three consecutive increases, manufacturers reported fewer new orders in April. Declines were widespread, as new orders fell back 4.5% to \$42.2 billion, the lowest level since December 2002. Fewer orders for machinery, computers and motor vehicle parts contributed to April's drop.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2101.

The April 2003 issue of the *Monthly Survey of Manufacturing* (31-001-XIE, \$15/\$147) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

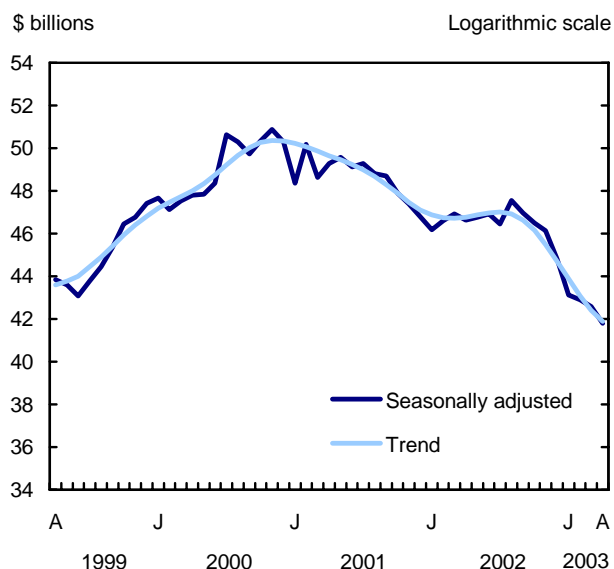
Data for shipments by province in greater detail than normally published may be available on request.

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.

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Unfilled orders continue to decline



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	
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	44,134	0.6	62,320	-0.1	46,963	-1.2	43,541	-3.2	1.41
October 2002	44,132	0.0	62,580	0.4	46,491	-1.0	43,660	0.3	1.42
November 2002	43,385	-1.7	62,989	0.7	46,127	-0.8	43,021	-1.5	1.45
December 2002	42,998	-0.9	63,161	0.3	44,820	-2.8	41,690	-3.1	1.47
January 2003	44,520	3.5	62,929	-0.4	43,123	-3.8	42,823	2.7	1.41
February 2003	43,991	-1.2	63,490	0.9	42,903	-0.5	43,771	2.2	1.44
March 2003	44,494	1.1	63,730	0.4	42,588	-0.7	44,180	0.9	1.43
April 2003	42,975	-3.4	64,101	0.6	41,798	-1.9	42,185	-4.5	1.49

Manufacturing industries except motor vehicle, parts and accessories

	Shipments		Inventories		Unfilled orders		New orders	
	Seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change
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	35,787	1.5	58,808	-0.2	44,932	-1.6	35,056	-3.2
October 2002	35,834	0.1	59,130	0.5	44,532	-0.9	35,434	1.1
November 2002	35,260	-1.6	59,403	0.5	44,195	-0.8	34,923	-1.4
December 2002	35,740	1.4	59,410	0.0	42,967	-2.8	34,511	-1.2
January 2003	36,284	1.5	59,376	-0.1	41,307	-3.9	34,624	0.3
February 2003	35,909	-1.0	59,910	0.9	41,121	-0.4	35,724	3.2
March 2003	36,121	0.6	60,239	0.6	40,860	-0.6	35,860	0.4
April 2003	34,941	-3.3	60,600	0.6	40,114	-1.8	34,194	-4.6



OTHER RELEASES

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard

March 2003

Data on particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard are now available for March.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2141.

The March 2003 issue of *Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard*, Vol. 39, no. 3 (36-003-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. ■

Fruit and vegetable production

2003 and 2002 (revised)

Canadian farmers have signaled that they intend to put slightly less acreage into fruit production this year, according to the latest Fruit and Vegetable Survey.

However, the survey also indicated that planting intentions for vegetables have increased, particularly for two major crops, sweet corn and carrots.

The survey showed that growers intend to cultivate 244,000 acres in fruit, down slightly from 2002. Vegetable growers expect to plant 291,000 acres in various crops, a 5% increase.

The Fruit and Vegetable Survey is conducted by Statistics Canada twice a year and provides information on principal fruit and vegetable crops grown in Canada. The estimates released in June provide information on intended area to be planted while those released in February estimate the actual area cultivated and harvested.

Available on CANSIM: tables 001-0009, 001-0012 and 001-0013.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3407 and 3411.

The June 2003 issue of *Fruit and vegetable production* (22-003-XIB, \$23/\$46) will be available soon. See *How to order products*. A print-on-demand service is also available at a different price.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Brent Wilson (613) 951-1255, Agriculture Division. ■

Steel primary forms — weekly data

Week ending June 7, 2003 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending June 7 totalled 304 263 metric tonnes, up 0.9% from 301 493 tonnes a week earlier but down 8.2% from 331 612 tonnes in the same week of 2002.

The year-to-date total as of June 7 was 6 900 372 tonnes, down 4.2% from 7 201 939 tonnes in the same period of 2002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2131.

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. ■

Export and import price indexes

April 2003

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (1997=100) on a balance of payments basis are now available. Price indexes are listed from January 1997 to April 2003 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups (62 exports and 61 imports).

Current- and fixed-weighted US price indexes (1997=100) are also available on a customs basis. Price indexes are listed from January 1997 to April 2003. Included with the US commodity indexes are the 10 all-countries and US-only Standard International Trade Classification section indexes.

Indexes for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups are also available now on a customs basis.

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001, 228-0003 and 228-0033 to 228-0040.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The April 2003 issue of *Canadian international merchandise trade* (65-001-XIB, \$14/\$141) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jocelyne Elibani (1-800-294-5583; 613-951-9647), International Trade Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Infomat — a weekly review, June 13, 2003
Catalogue number 11-002-XIE (\$3/\$109).

Infomat — a weekly review, June 13, 2003
Catalogue number 11-002-XPE (\$4/\$145).

Supply and disposition of crude oil and natural gas,
September 2002, Vol. 54, no. 9
Catalogue number 26-006-XPB (\$19/\$186).

Supply and disposition of crude oil and natural gas,
October 2002, Vol. 54, no. 10
Catalogue number 26-006-XPB (\$19/\$186).

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard,
March 2003, Vol. 39, no. 3
Catalogue number 36-003-XIB (\$5/\$47).

Capital expenditure price statistics, Fourth
quarter 2002, Vol. 18, no. 4
Catalogue number 62-007-XPB (\$24/\$79).

Industry price indexes, April 2003, Vol. 29, no. 4
Catalogue number 62-011-XIE (\$17/\$163).

Industry price indexes, April 2003, Vol. 29, no. 4
Catalogue number 62-011-XPE (\$22/\$217).

New motor vehicle sales, April 2003, Vol. 75, no. 4
Catalogue number 63-007-XIB (\$13/\$124).

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Statistics Canada

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



MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about six trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was notably weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- Map-based index: May 1997 3
- Short-term Expectations Survey 8
- Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997 12
- Egg production: Apr 1997 12

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11



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The Daily, June 13, 2003

RELEASE DATES: JUNE 16 TO 20

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
16	National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth: Challenges of late adolescence	2000/01
17	International investment position	First quarter 2003
17	Financing of small and medium-sized enterprises	2001
18	Canada's international transactions in securities	April 2003
18	Government finance: Revenue, expenditure and surplus	2002/03
19	Travel between Canada and other countries	April 2003
19	General Social Survey: Consequences of caring for an aging society	2002
19	Low-income rates among immigrants	1980-2000
20	Consumer Price Index	May 2003
