



Infommat

A Weekly Review

Friday, February 16, 2001

OVERVIEW

◆ Overall employment starts the year virtually unchanged

After five months of strong growth, employment was virtually unchanged in January. The unemployment rate edged up 0.1 percentage points to 6.9%.

◆ Best results in 11 years for residential and non-residential construction

Municipalities issued \$37.7 billion worth of building permits in 2000, the second highest level ever. The residential and non-residential sectors posted their best annual performance since the construction peak of 1989.

◆ Large retailers report higher sales

In November, large retailers' sales were up 7.9% compared with November 1999. Sales of clothing, footwear and accessories posted a healthy increase, following a period of weaker results that began in the fourth quarter of 1999.

◆ Full-time enrolment in preparatory/special training declines

In 1997/98, enrolment in preparatory/special training dropped 10.1%, contributing to the overall decrease in full time enrolment in trade/vocational and preparatory/special training programs and courses.

◆ Cultural spending up for the first time in five years

Total government spending on culture increased in 1998/99, halting four consecutive years of decline. Spending by the federal and provincial/territorial governments was up, while municipal spending fell.

◆ Sales of films and videos hit record high

Film and video distributors and videocassette wholesalers made more sales in Canada and abroad in 1998-1999 than ever before. Revenues totalled \$2.1 billion, up 16% from 1997-1998.

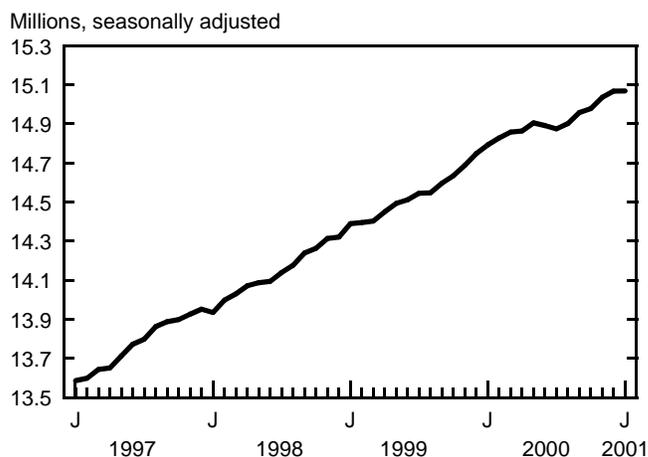
Overall employment starts the year virtually unchanged

Following five months of strong growth, employment was virtually unchanged in January. An increase of 20,000 in part-time employment was offset by a similar decline in full-time work. The unemployment rate edged up 0.1 percentage points to 6.9%.

Employment was essentially unchanged in January for adult women (those 25 and over), as an increase in part-time employment was offset by a similar decline in full-time work. Employment was also unchanged among adult men and youths (15 to 24). A slight decline in the labour force participation of young people pushed their unemployment rate down 0.4 percentage points to 12.1%.

In January, the number of private-sector employees increased by 37,000, while the number of self-employed fell by 48,000. This continues the trend of strength in paid employment and weakness in self-employment seen throughout 2000. The number of public-sector employees was up slightly (+13,000) in January.

Employment



(continued on page 2)



... Overall employment starts the year virtually unchanged

Trade, the largest employer along with manufacturing, gained 21,000 jobs in January. Employment also rose 21,000 in health care and social assistance. In natural resources, the number of jobs was up 5,000, partly offsetting the decline in December. Employment in this industry has remained at about the current level since May 2000.

Employment in management, administrative and other support services fell 28,000 in January, adding to December's losses. Manufacturing employment edged down 9,000 after posting gains in the preceding three months.

Building on the performance of the last four years, employment in Ontario rose by 16,000 in January, all full-time jobs. The unemployment rate dipped 0.3 points to 5.7%. Employment in Quebec was little changed in January and the labour force grew by 29,000. This pushed the unemployment rate up 0.6 points to 8.6%.

Employment in Saskatchewan increased by 4,000 in January, partly offsetting the decline in December. An increase in labour force participation (+6,000) boosted the unemployment rate 0.3 percentage points to 5.6%. In British Columbia, employment dropped by 30,000; the loss was mainly concentrated in services. About two thirds of the overall employment decline was in self-employment.

In New Brunswick, a gain of 3,000 jobs was matched by a similar increase in labour force participation, which kept the unemployment rate unchanged at 10.0%. In Nova Scotia, employment fell 9,000 to its August 2000 level, following four

Supplementary information on Employment Insurance

In November (the most recent month for which data are available), the number of Canadians (unadjusted for seasonal trends) who received regular Employment Insurance benefits was 419,380, down 7.4% from November 1999. All provinces and territories except Nova Scotia and Nunavut recorded a decrease. Regular benefit payments (adjusted for seasonal trends) totalled \$614.3 million, up 4.6% compared with October, while the number of claims rose 4.4% to 221,560.

Statistics Canada and Human Resources Development Canada are correcting an underestimation in the calculation of the number of Employment Insurance beneficiaries for the period from January 1997 to April 2000. In the meantime, users are cautioned against making any comparisons between these data and any previously released monthly or historical data. For more information, contact Justin Lacroix (613-951-4090, fax: 613-951-4087; labour@statcan.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

consecutive monthly increases. The unemployment rate rose 0.9 percentage points to 9.8%. Employment was little changed in the other provinces in January.

*A more detailed summary, **Labour force information** (Internet: 71-001-PIB, \$8/\$78; paper: 71-001-PPB, \$11/\$103) for the week ended January 20, 2001, is now available. For more information, contact Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750) or Jacques Ouellet (613-951-4168), Labour Statistics Division. See also "Current trends" on page 8.*

Labour Force Survey, January 2001 Seasonally adjusted¹

	Labour force		Employment		Unemployment	
	'000	% change, previous month	'000	% change, previous month	'000	rate (%)
Canada	16,180.6	0.1	15,067.4	0.0	1,113.2	6.9
Newfoundland	246.8	-0.7	206.6	0.9	40.2	16.3
Prince Edward Island	73.7	-0.4	65.1	-0.3	8.6	11.7
Nova Scotia	461.4	-1.3	416.4	-2.2	45.0	9.8
New Brunswick	379.1	0.9	341.2	0.9	37.8	10.0
Quebec	3,782.4	0.8	3,457.3	0.2	325.1	8.6
Ontario	6,337.6	-0.1	5,976.4	0.3	361.1	5.7
Manitoba	585.5	0.1	558.6	0.4	26.9	4.6
Saskatchewan	512.2	1.2	483.4	0.9	28.8	5.6
Alberta	1,704.9	0.6	1,619.9	0.4	85.0	5.0
British Columbia	2,097.1	-1.2	1,942.5	-1.5	154.7	7.4

¹ Data are for both sexes aged 15 and over.

Best results in 11 years for residential and non-residential construction

Municipalities issued \$37.7 billion worth of building permits in 2000, the second highest level ever. Both the residential and non-residential sectors posted their best annual performance since the construction peak of 1989, when the total value of permits reached \$40.0 billion.

Among census metropolitan areas, the most significant gain in cumulative value occurred in the Ottawa region, where a shortage of office space and strong demand for new single-family dwellings pushed up intentions. Calgary and Montréal followed, owing to buoyant activity in the non-residential sector.

Single-family dwellings led the residential sector to a strong year 2000, as permits totalled \$20.6 billion, up 3.3% from 1999. Municipalities issued \$15.0 billion in permits for single-family

(continued on page 3)

... Best results in 11 years for residential and non-residential construction

dwellings, a 5.2% increase compared with 1999. However, multi-family dwelling intentions fell 1.5% to \$5.6 billion.

Likely factors behind the housing sector's strong performance in 2000 were high levels of full-time employment, sustained growth in disposable income, low and stable mortgage rates and increased immigration.

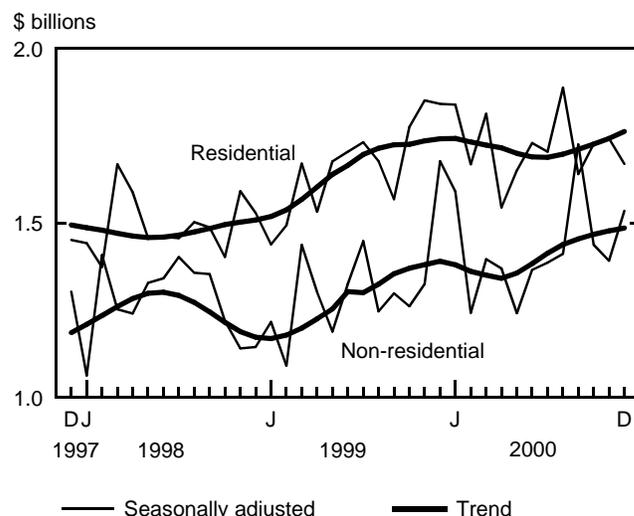
Among the provinces, by far the most significant increase in dollar terms was in Ontario. That province accounted for more than four fifths of the overall increase in the housing sector in 2000. Quebec and Alberta also enjoyed substantial gains. By contrast, British Columbia's housing sector posted the largest decline, its fourth decrease in as many years.

In the non-residential sector, the value of building permits climbed 8.1% to \$17.1 billion in 2000. This increase was more than double the 1999 advance. The biggest contributor to the annual growth in the non-residential sector was the commercial component, which rose 8.8% to \$9.2 billion, the second highest level ever. The activity came mainly from gains in construction projects for trade and services and for office buildings.

In the industrial component, intentions totalled \$4.0 billion in 2000, up 11.3% from 1999. New plants near Highway 407 in the Toronto census metropolitan area were a major factor in the increase. The highest industrial capacity utilization rate in the manufacturing sector in more than 25 years and the growing scarcity of industrial space also played a role. The institutional component grew by a modest 3.1% to \$3.8 billion as a result of gains in welfare and governmental administration buildings.

Among the provinces, the most notable growth in dollar terms in the non-residential sector in 2000 occurred in Ontario and Alberta. While the industrial and institutional components played a predominant role in Ontario, the increase in Alberta was chiefly due to the commercial sector. By contrast, Saskatchewan suffered

Value of building permits



the largest decline, mostly because of decreases in the institutional and industrial components.

In December, municipalities issued \$3.2 billion worth of building permits, up 2.3% from November. Growth in non-residential construction intentions more than offset a decline in the residential sector. Substantial gains for industrial and institutional permits led the non-residential sector to a healthy 10.4% increase. However, the value of housing permits dropped by 4.2% as a result of declines in both single- and multi-family dwelling intentions.

*The December 2000 issue of **Building permits** (Internet: 64-001-XIB, \$19/\$186) is now available. For general information, contact Vere Clarke (613-951-6556; clarver@statcan.ca). For analytical information, contact Étienne Saint-Pierre (613-951-2025; saineti@statcan.ca), Investment and Capital Stock Division.*

Building permits, 2000

Seasonally adjusted

	Total		Residential		Non-residential	
	\$ millions	% change, previous year	\$ millions	% change, previous year	\$ millions	rate (%) previous year
Canada	37,701.4	5.4	20,612.7	3.3	17,088.7	8.1
Newfoundland	312.0	2.9	192.9	27.7	119.1	-21.6
Prince Edward Island	110.0	-22.0	63.5	-8.6	46.5	-35.0
Nova Scotia	912.2	0.6	517.3	8.5	394.9	-8.2
New Brunswick	484.9	0.8	268.7	-2.0	216.2	4.4
Quebec	6,453.5	8.7	3,264.2	5.1	3,189.4	12.5
Ontario	17,912.7	6.9	10,363.4	5.4	7,549.3	9.0
Manitoba	896.2	1.9	375.7	3.1	520.5	1.0
Saskatchewan	644.8	-10.7	256.4	-5.2	388.4	-13.9
Alberta	5,376.7	12.0	2,886.2	4.4	2,490.5	22.3
British Columbia	4,478.0	-4.6	2,379.2	-8.2	2,098.7	-0.3
Yukon	55.7	14.1	14.5	-19.7	41.2	34.1
Northwest Territories	22.8	-44.8	10.0	-14.5	12.8	-56.7
Nunavut	41.9	-15.0	20.7	-18.7	21.3	-11.0

Note: Data may not add to totals due to rounding.

Large retailers report higher sales

November sales by large retailers totalled \$7.1 billion, a 7.9% increase over November 1999. All major product lines had year-over-year sales increases. (Data are not seasonally adjusted.)

Health and personal care products recorded the largest sales growth (+14.1%) in November. Contributing to the increase were sales of toiletries and other personal care products (+23.4%) and prescription drugs (+19.3%). Sales of over-the-counter drugs posted a smaller gain (+6.8%), while sales of cosmetics and fragrances declined (-2.9%).

The "all other goods and services" category posted the second largest sales increase (+13.0%) in November. Higher gasoline prices continued to boost sales of automotive fuels, oils and additives (+36.7%). Sales of services (excluding automotive repairs) and pet food were also strong.

Clothing, footwear and accessories sales enjoyed a healthy 8.0% gain in November, following a period of weaker results that began in the fourth quarter of 1999. Double-digit year-over-year sales increases were recorded for footwear, men's and women's outerwear and fashion accessories, and women's hosiery. Sales of men's suits, sports jackets and blazers were nearly unchanged. Sales of women's dresses and suits declined 9.6%, and sales of jewellery and watches were down 6.2%.

In November, sporting and leisure goods had a year-over-year sales advance of 6.8%. A 20.6% jump in sporting goods sales was counterbalanced by a smaller gain of 2.9% in sales of leisure goods. With the exception of golf equipment and accessories (down 5.0%), all types of sporting goods enjoyed significant sales increases. The most notable gains were in the "all other

Large retailers' sales

Not seasonally adjusted

	November 1999	November 2000	November 1999 to November 2000
	\$ millions		% change
All commodities	6,598	7,116	7.9
Food and beverages	2,008	2,150	7.1
Clothing, footwear and accessories	1,426	1,540	8.0
Home furnishings and electronics	1,093	1,151	5.3
Health and personal care products	485	553	14.1
Housewares	308	323	5.1
Sporting and leisure goods	406	434	6.8
Hardware, lawn and garden products	205	211	3.4
All other goods and services	667	754	13.0

sporting goods" category, ski equipment, and exercise and fitness equipment.

Sales of home furnishings and electronics rose 5.3% compared with November 1999. Furniture sales increased 13.6%, and consumer demand for audio/video equipment, phones and other electronics pushed sales of home electronics up by 8.2%. Sales of household appliances grew by 4.8%. Lower sales of artwork and other home decorating products contributed to a 2.8% decrease in sales of home furnishings.

To order data, or for general information, contact the Client Services (613-951-3549; 1 877 421-3067; retailinfo@statcan.ca). For analytical information, contact Catherine Draper (613-951-0669; drapcat@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

Full-time enrolment in preparatory/special training declines

In 1997/98, 250,022 students enrolled full time in trade/vocational and preparatory/special training programs and courses in community colleges, 4.4% fewer than in 1996/97.

The students in preparatory/special training account for the decrease in overall enrolment; enrolment in this category dropped 10.1% from 1996/97. Enrolments in preparatory/special training programs and courses tend to increase during economic downturns and to decrease during periods of economic and labour force growth. (These programs focus mainly on workplace skills and on increasing the employability of persons entering or re-entering the work force. They vary from academic upgrading and language training to job search skills.)

On the other hand, enrolments in the trade/vocational group of programs increased a slight 0.9% in 1997/98. (These programs are designed to provide basic employment skills for entry into an occupation or apprenticeship program.)

Full-time enrolment in trade/vocational and preparatory/special training

	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97 to 1997/98
	Number of enrolments		% change
Total enrolment	261,396	250,022	-4.4
Enrolment by type of training			
Preparatory/special training	125,286	112,626	-10.1
Trade/vocational	136,110	137,396	0.9
Enrolment by field of study			
Arts	8,368	8,789	5.0
Business and commerce	28,279	28,825	1.9
Engineering and applied sciences	79,397	79,627	0.3
Health sciences and related sciences	6,310	6,126	-2.9
Natural sciences and primary industries	7,639	8,266	8.2
Social sciences and services	5,959	5,489	-7.9
Other	158	274	73.4

(continued on page 5)

... Full-time enrolment in preparatory/special training declines

The largest proportion of enrolments in trade/vocational programs were in engineering and applied sciences and business and commerce. While most fields of study saw higher enrolments in 1997/98, the health sciences and related sciences, and social sciences and services areas decreased slightly.

To obtain more information on enrolments in full-time trade/vocational and preparatory/special training programs and courses, contact Sharon-Anne Borde (613-951-1503; fax: 613-951-9040; bordsha@statcan.ca). For analytical information about this article, contact Karl Skof (613-951-1529; fax: 613-951-6765; skofkar@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

Cultural spending up for the first time in five years

Total government spending on culture increased in the 1998/99 fiscal year, halting four consecutive years of decline. The three levels of government spent about \$5.7 billion on all things cultural. In constant dollars (adjusted for inflation), spending was up 2.3% from 1997/98, the first real increase since 1990/91. In current dollars, spending rose 2.7%.

Spending by the federal and provincial/territorial governments was up, while municipal spending fell. This reversed the trends seen during much of the 1990s, when municipalities increased their cultural spending while other levels were reporting declines.

The federal government spent \$2.8 billion on culture in 1998/99, up 5.9% from the previous year. This increase ended a series of declines that began in the early 1990s. Departmental and operational budgets accounted for about 73% of the total federal cultural budget. The largest percentage increases in federal operational budgets occurred in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Quebec, owing largely to higher spending on broadcasting. The biggest declines were in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, due to decreased spending on heritage-related activities.

Federal grants, contributions and other transfers to artists and cultural organizations increased 15.3% to \$513.2 million. This was the third consecutive year of growth following three straight annual declines. The sectors benefiting most from the increase were heritage activities, performing arts and broadcasting.

Federal capital spending rose 20.8% to \$259.1 million, after declining in the previous three years. A significant portion of the increase came from spending on nature parks in British Columbia, and on broadcasting production facilities, most of which are located in Quebec and Ontario.

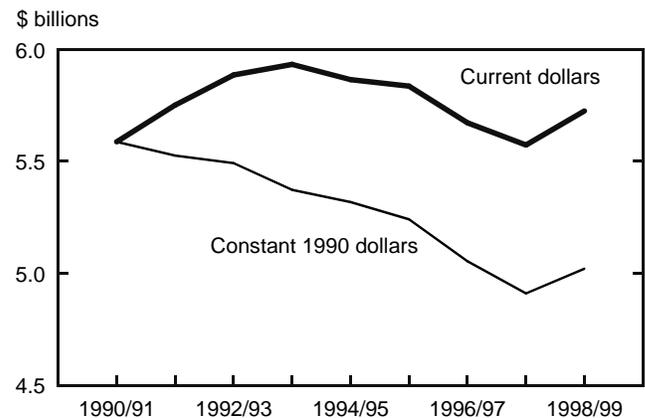
Provincial/territorial cultural outlays were up for the first time in six years. The provinces and territories spent a total of \$1.9 billion, a 9.0% increase from 1997/98. The largest item in provincial/territorial spending was department operating budgets, which totalled \$673.0 million, up 2.6%. Higher spending in the heritage sector in Ontario, Alberta and New Brunswick accounted for much of the increase.

Libraries were the second largest item in provincial/territorial cultural spending. Outlays climbed by 4.2% to \$668.6 million,

Note to readers

This release includes results for the financial year from April 1, 1998, to March 31, 1999. Municipal data are based on a sample of municipalities for the financial year from January 1 to December 31, 1998. Unless otherwise stated, all values are in current dollars, with no adjustment for inflation.

Total government expenditures on culture



following several years of declines. About one quarter of the expenditures took the form of transfers to municipal governments.

Municipal spending on culture fell 7.9% to \$1.4 billion, the first large decline in 14 years. Library operating budgets, which accounted for about four fifths of total municipal expenditures on culture, were down 4.3%. Quebec municipalities reported the largest decline in cultural expenditures, followed by Ontario municipalities. Municipal spending increased in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia.

Selected data from the Government Expenditures on Culture Survey are now available in table format in **Government expenditures on culture, 1998/99** (paper: 87F0001XPB, \$50). To order standard or special tabulations, or for more information, contact Norman Verma (613-951-6863; fax: 613-951-9040; vermnor@statcan.ca), Culture Statistics Program.

Sales of films and videos hit record high

Strong sales of foreign film and video productions in Canada and continued growth in overseas exports of Canadian productions led to record revenues of \$2.1 billion for film and video distributors and videocassette wholesalers in 1998-1999. This was a 16% increase from 1997-1998. Because of higher operating costs, however, profits were down, both in absolute terms and as a percentage of total revenue. At \$305.0 million, profits made up 14% of total revenues, compared with 18% in 1997-1998.

Total foreign sales were \$185.5 million in 1997-1998, up 40% from the previous year and almost twice the 1994-1995 level. In particular, sales to other countries of Canadian film and video productions reached a record \$147.4 million. These sales accounted for 56% of all the distribution revenues from Canadian-content productions in 1998-1999, compared with only about one third at the beginning of the 1990s.

Foreign films and videos continued to dominate the domestic market in 1998-1999. Foreign productions accounted for 86% of the \$821.6 million in total sales, down from about 90% during much of the 1990s.

However, in certain sectors of the industry, foreign domination of the domestic market was even greater. In the theatrical market (commercial theatres and drive-ins), for example, foreign movies accounted for 97% of the \$282.2 million earned by distributors in 1998-1999. In the home-video market, foreign productions continued to enjoy overwhelming popularity, accounting for 98% of the \$1.0 billion in domestic wholesale sales. Foreign domination in these markets may be due to the power of extensive publicity campaigns.

Although both the conventional-television market and the pay-television market were dominated by foreign productions, the

Note to readers

This release presents results from a survey of 200 film and video distributing and wholesale companies in Canada. Videos include videocassettes, videodiscs and DVDs.

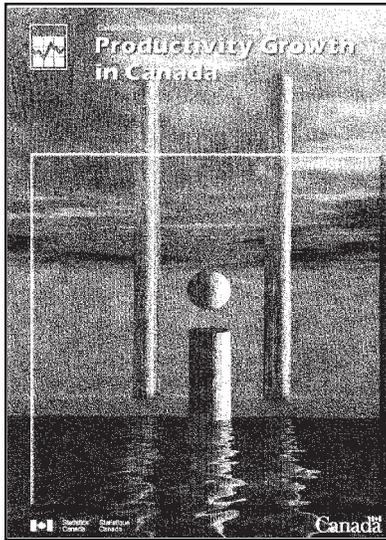
share of revenue from Canadian product in both of them was significantly higher than in 1997-1998. In the conventional-TV market, Canadian productions' share rose from 16% to 24%, and in the pay-TV market, their share grew from 16% to 21%. Total revenue in these markets was \$363.1 million and \$56.1 million respectively.

In the non-theatrical market, which consists primarily of work for educational institutions, governments and private companies, Canadian content is in decline. Revenue totalled \$15.7 million in 1998-1999, down 8% from 1997-1998 and down 20% from 1994-1995. The share of Canadian product in this market is also dropping, having declined from 36% in 1997-1998 to 23% in 1998-1999.

Film and video distributors and video wholesalers reported total expenditures of \$1.8 billion in 1998-1999. The largest expense was \$659.7 million for licensing fees and royalties. Canadian films and videos earned 11% of these payments, the same proportion as in 1997/98 but a smaller share than the 13% reported in 1994-1995. Personnel costs totalled \$104.7 million, up 25% from 1997-1998. This is mostly a reflection of the growth in full-time employment in the industry.

Data from the Film and Video Distribution and Wholesaling Survey are available in table format (paper: 87F0010XPE, \$50). Researchers can request special tabulations on a cost-recovery basis. To order tables, or for more information, contact Fidel Ifedi (613-951-1569; fax: 613-951-9040; ifedfid@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

New from Statistics Canada



Productivity growth in Canada 1961 to 1999

Productivity growth in Canada is a comprehensive analytical guide for analysts, researchers, students and consultants researching productivity measures.

This study includes an overview of standard productivity growth measures and data-construction procedures. It considers in detail several underlying theoretical concepts and measurement issues. It also illustrates how productivity measures and related economic performance indicators can be used and interpreted. In addition, a number of empirical studies illustrate the uses for productivity measures. One chapter compares productivity growth in Canada with that in the United States based on data collected prior to the recent historical revision made by the U.S.

Productivity growth in Canada (Internet: 15-204-XIE, \$35; paper: 15-204-XPE, \$46) is now available. For more information, contact John Baldwin (613-951-8588; baldjoh@statcan.ca), Microeconomic Analysis Division.

Industrial monitor on CD-ROM February 2001

The *Industrial monitor on CD-ROM* offers up-to-date data on more than 150 manufacturing industries and 33 other industries covering construction, wholesale trade and retail trade. This information is offered for 25 sectors, and can be purchased by individual sector or as a complete package.

For each industry, up to 50 variables are organized in the Table Viewer according to five table types: supply, demand, price, labour/employment, and investment/capital stock. The underlying database is also available via the Series Browser for more extensive time-series analysis and inter-industry comparisons. State-of-the-art functions offer searching, graphing, viewing, exporting and transforming capabilities, providing the information quickly and easily.

The February 2001 issue of the *Industrial monitor on CD-ROM* is now available. An annual subscription (one CD-ROM per month) to the full package (15F0015XCB) costs \$995, a savings of more than 80% off the annual subscription price of \$258 per individual sector. For more information, or to request a free demonstration CD-ROM, contact Yolande Chantigny (1-800-887-9163; 613-951-9163; fax: 613-951-3688; imad@statcan.ca), Industry Measures and Analysis Division.

Benchmarking adult literacy in North America 1994 to 1998

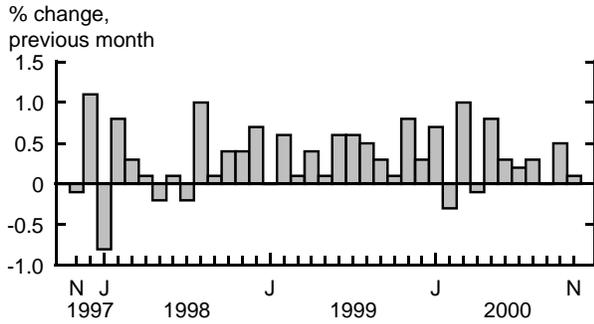
Published by Statistics Canada and Human Resources Development Canada and commissioned by the United States Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, the monograph *Benchmarking adult literacy in North America: an international comparative study* presents 10 international indicators that allow readers to compare the literacy proficiency of North Americans with that of other populations. The results show that Canadian adults are at an average level of literacy performance, behind the Nordic countries and the Netherlands but on par with adults in the United States, Australia, and Germany.

The International Adult Literacy Survey was a 22-country initiative that provides objective measures of adult literacy skill in three domains: prose literacy, document literacy and quantitative literacy. These correspond to the information processing skills needed to reliably perform everyday tasks at home, at work and in the community.

The report *Benchmarking adult literacy in North America: An international comparative study* (Internet: 89-572-XIE, free; paper: 89-572-XPE, \$10) is now available. To download the report from Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca), go to the Products and Services page, choose Free publications, then Education. For more information, contact T. Scott Murray (613-951-9035; fax: 613-951-9040), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

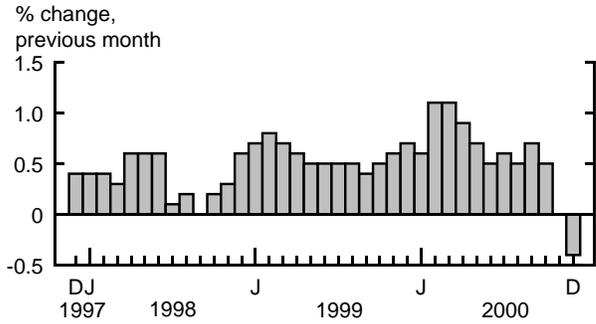
Current trends

Gross domestic product



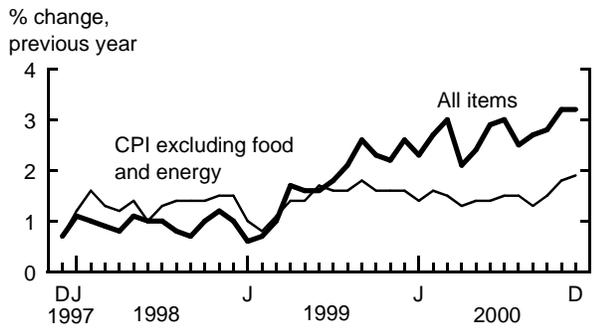
November's gross domestic product was little changed, edging up 0.1% from October, due to slower North American demand for automotive products.

Composite Index



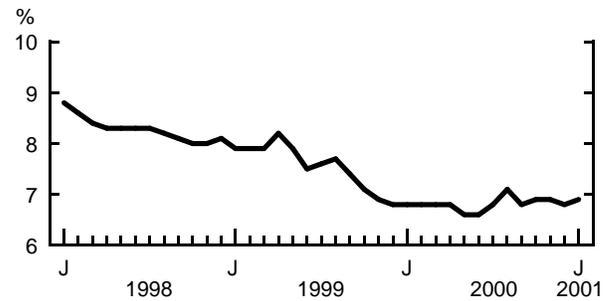
The leading indicator fell by 0.4% in December, its first dip since 1995. Half of the drop originated in the stock market.

Consumer Price Index



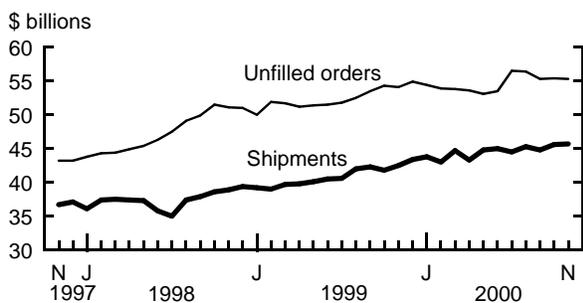
Consumer prices for goods and services were 3.2% higher in December 2000 than they were a year earlier, as they were in November. Excluding food and energy, prices rose 1.9%.

Unemployment rate



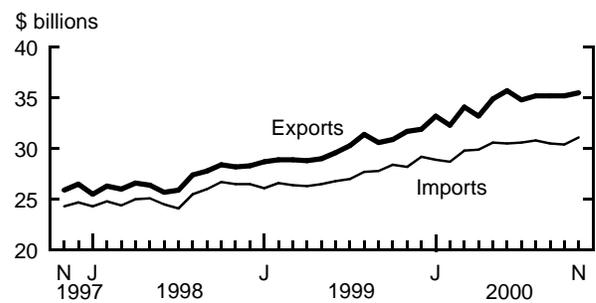
In January, the unemployment rate edged up 0.1 percentage points to 6.9%.

Manufacturing



Manufacturers' shipments increased by 0.3% in November to \$45.7 billion. The backlog of unfilled orders edged down 0.1% to \$55.3 billion.

Merchandise trade



In November, the value of merchandise exports rose 0.8% to \$35.5 billion. Imports, which increased at almost three times the pace of exports, were up 2.2% to \$31.1 billion.

Note: All series are seasonally adjusted except the Consumer Price Index.

Latest statistics

	Period	Level	Change, previous period	Change, previous year
GENERAL				
Gross domestic product (\$ billion, 1992)	November	797.0	0.1%	3.7%
Composite Index (1992=100)	December	166.6	-0.4%	7.0%
Operating profits of enterprises (\$ billion)	Q3 2000	52.6	0.1%	15.7%
Capacity utilization (%)	Q3 2000	86.9	-0.1†	1.5†
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail trade (\$ billion)	November	23.4	0.4%	6.1%
Department store sales (\$ billions)	December	1.57	3.3%	9.8%
New motor vehicle sales (thousands of units)	December*	131.2	2.5%	-8.9%
Wholesale trade (\$ billion)	November	31.7	-0.7%	2.1%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	January*	15.07	0.0%	1.9%
Unemployment rate (%)	January*	6.9	0.1†	0.1†
Participation rate (%)	January*	66.1	-0.1†	0.4†
Average weekly earnings (\$)	November	632.15	0.5%	2.9%
Help-wanted Index (1996=100)	January	177	-2.2%	4.7%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise exports (\$ billion)	November	35.5	0.8%	12.2%
Merchandise imports (\$ billion)	November	31.1	2.2%	10.1%
Merchandise trade balance (all figures in \$ billion)	November	4.5	-0.4	1.0
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments (\$ billion)	November	45.7	0.3%	7.5%
New orders (\$ billion)	November	45.6	-0.1%	7.9%
Unfilled orders (\$ billion)	November	55.3	-0.1%	2.3%
Inventory/shipments ratio	November	1.35	0.01	0.05
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1992=100)	January*	114.7	-0.3%	3.0%
Industrial Product Price Index (1992=100)	December	128.9	-0.9%	3.5%
Raw Materials Price Index (1992=100)	December	142.8	-7.3%	6.3%
New Housing Price Index (1992=100)	December*	104.4	0.1%	2.4%

Note: All series are seasonally adjusted with the exception of the price indexes.

* new this week

† percentage point

Infomat

A weekly review

Editor: Caroline Olivier (613) 951-1189; olivcar@statcan.ca
Head of Official Release: Madeleine Simard (613) 951-1088; simamad@statcan.ca

Published by the Official Release Unit, Communications Division,
Statistics Canada, 10th floor, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6.

Price per issue: paper, \$4; online at www.statcan.ca, \$3. Annual subscription: paper, \$145; online, \$109. All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude applicable sales taxes. Shipping charges will be added for delivery outside Canada.

To subscribe: Send a money order or cheque payable to the Receiver General of Canada/Statistics Canada, Circulation Management, 120 Parkdale Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6. To order by phone call (613) 951-7277, or 1 800 700-1033 both in Canada and outside Canada, or send an e-mail to order@statcan.ca.

The first (official) release of all statistical information produced by Statistics Canada occurs in *The Daily* (www.statcan.ca), available at 8:30 a.m. *The Daily* presents highlights from new data releases, along with sources, links and contacts for further information. It also contains schedules of upcoming major news releases and announces the Agency's new products and services.

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2001. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without prior written permission from Licence Services, Marketing Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6, Canada.

The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences – Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48 – 1984.



Products released from February 8 to 14, 2001

SUBJECT AREA Title of product	Period	Catalogue number	Price (\$) (issue/subscription)
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL FLOWS			
Canada's international transactions in securities	November 2000	67-002-XIB	14/132
INDUSTRY MEASURES AND ANALYSIS			
Industrial monitor on CD-ROM	February 2001	15F0015XCB	995
INVESTMENT AND CAPITAL STOCK			
Building permits	December 2000	64-001-XIB	19/186
LABOUR STATISTICS			
Employment, earnings and hours	November 2000	72-002-XIB	24/240
Employment, earnings and hours	November 2000	72-002-XPB	32/320
Labour force information	January 2001	71-001-PIB	8/78
Labour force information	January 2001	71-001-PPB	11/103
MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION AND ENERGY			
Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins	December 2000	46-002-XIB	5/47
Oils and fats	December 2000	32-006-XIB	5/47
Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products	November 2000	55-001-XIB	9/86
Production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing	December 2000	41-011-XIB	5/47
Shipments of solid fuel burning heating products	Q4 2000	25-002-XIB	6/19
Supply and disposition of crude oil and natural gas	October 2000	26-006-XPB	19/186
MICRO ECONOMIC STUDIES AND ANALYSIS			
Productivity growth in Canada	1961 to 1999	15-204-XIE	35
Productivity growth in Canada	1961 to 1999	15-204-XPE	46
SPECIAL SURVEYS			
Benchmarking adult literacy in North America: an international comparative study	1998	89-572-XIE	no charge
Benchmarking adult literacy in North America: an international comparative study	1998	89-572-XPE	10
TRANSPORTATION			
Trucking in Canada	1999	53-222-XIB	39

Catalogue numbers with an -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions (B signifies bilingual, E signifies English); those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; and -XPB or -XPE denote the paper version. XDB means the electronic version on diskette, while -XCB denotes a compact disc.

Note: All products are priced in Canadian dollars and exclude applicable sales taxes. Shipping charges will be added for delivery outside Canada.

How to order products and services

To order Infomat or other products:

Please refer to the • Title • Catalogue number • Volume number • Issue number • Your VISA or MasterCard number.

In Canada and outside Canada call: **(613) 951-7277 or 1 800 267-6677**
 Fax your order to us: **(613) 951-1584 or 1 877 287-4369**
 Or e-mail your order: **order@statcan.ca**

To order on the Internet: Visit the Statistics Canada web site at www.statcan.ca and click on "Products and services".

To order by mail, write to: Circulation Management, Statistics Canada, 120 Parkdale Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6.

Include a cheque or money order payable to Receiver General of Canada/Publications.

Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centres provide a full range of the Agency's products and services.

For the reference centre nearest you, check the blue pages of your telephone directory under Statistics Canada.

Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.

For address changes: Please refer to your customer account number.

Visit Statistics Canada anytime at www.statcan.ca. Click on "Products and services" to access the CANSIM database. Or consult the tables in "Canadian statistics".