



Infommat

A Weekly Review

Friday, March 31, 2000

OVERVIEW

◆ Foreign investment in Canadian securities showing wide swings

In January, foreign investors bought \$4.8 billion worth of Canadian securities. They had sold \$6.6 billion worth in December. By contrast, Canadian investment in foreign securities was substantial for a third straight month in January.

◆ Upturn in leading indicator led by housing

The leading indicator grew in February by 1.0%, as the housing index decisively ended four straight months of decline.

◆ Retail sales unchanged

In January, retail sales were unchanged from December. Large declines were seen at stores where December sales might have been buoyed by millennial festivities or Y2K concerns.

◆ Farm equipment wholesalers' situation improves slightly

Wholesalers saw their sales edge up in January by 0.2%. Wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies posted the strongest sales gains after two months of declines.

◆ Small businesses contribute strongly to job creation

Small businesses continued to contribute to job creation well out of proportion to their size in 1997. They were responsible for 57% of the gross increase in employment despite representing only 32% of total paid employment.

◆ A profile of Canadian exporters

From 1993 to 1997, the number of businesses exporting goods rose 29% to 30,738. The value of their exports climbed 58% to \$279 billion. A select group of firms accounted for the majority of exports.

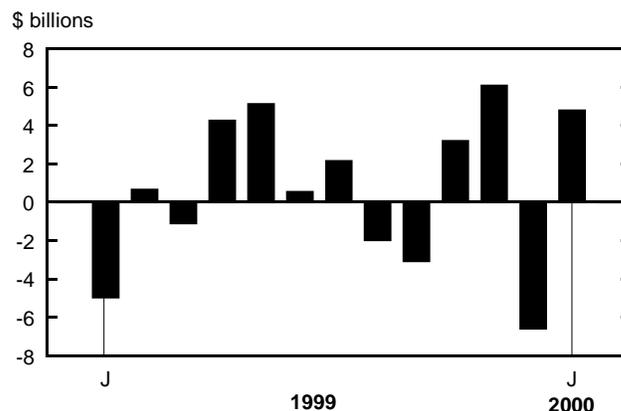
Foreign investment in Canadian securities showing wide swings

In January, foreign investors bought \$4.8 billion worth of Canadian securities. They had sold \$6.6 billion worth in December. Such wide monthly fluctuations have been occurring since the second half of last year. Although foreign investors mostly bought Canadian stocks in January, they also added for the first time in five months to their holdings of Canadian money market paper.

Foreign investors increased their holdings of Canadian stocks by a massive \$4.7 billion during January. Much of that was accounted for by a share exchange, part of a high-profile acquisition of an American company by a Canadian firm. In addition, foreign investors continued to buy shares in the secondary market (\$0.8 billion).

For the first time since August 1999, foreign investors were net buyers of Canadian money market paper (\$1.3 billion). By contrast, foreign investors continued to reduce their Canadian bond holdings in January (\$1.2 billion), though at a slower pace than in December. The bond selling was widespread geographically, led by American and European investors.

Foreign investment in Canadian securities¹



¹ Includes bonds, stocks and money market paper.

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... Foreign investment in Canadian securities showing wide swings

Canadian investors, by contrast, continued to be net buyers of foreign securities for a third straight month (\$2.3 billion). In January, they directed a further \$2.9 billion into foreign stocks. This buying followed an investment of \$8 billion throughout November and December. Two-thirds of January's investment went into shares of American companies.

Also in January, Canadians reduced their holdings of foreign bonds (mainly U.S. Treasury bills) by \$0.6 billion. This contrasted with their buying activity in the two prior months, when Canadian investment in foreign bonds totalled \$3.3 billion.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2328-2330, 2378-2380 and 4195.

The January 2000 issue of Canada's international transactions in securities (print: 67-002-XPB, \$18/\$176; online at www.statcan.ca: 67-002-XIB, 14/132) presents the full report. For further information, contact Don Granger (613-951-1864), Balance of Payments and Financial Flows Division.

Related market information

In January, short-term interest rates moved within a narrow range in both the United States and Canada, so the differential favouring investment in the United States remained unchanged at about 50 basis points. On long-term government instruments, the differential also favoured investment in the United States.

After staging one of its best annual performances in recent years last year (+30%), the TSE 300 composite index took a breather in January and gained only 0.8%. Still, that was enough to outperform U.S. stock prices for a third straight month. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 5.1% in January, after having risen 20% in 1999.

After a strong performance in December, the Canadian dollar closed marginally lower against the U.S. dollar in January at just over 69 U.S. cents. In 1999, the Canadian dollar gained a full four cents against its American counterpart.

Upturn in leading indicator led by housing

The leading indicator grew in February by 1.0%, slightly above the average for the prior 12 months. January's rise was revised upward to 0.6%. On the heels of the substantial improvement in the labour market at the turn of the year, February's upturn in the composite index was led by housing.

The housing index decisively ended four straight months of decline. Housing starts jumped to their highest level since May 1992, as the volatile multiple units component regained all the ground it lost in January. Sales of existing homes also firmed after several sluggish months. Other durable goods continued to show slow sales growth.

Housing also led the advance in the U.S. leading indicator. The labour and stock market indicators were not far behind, buttressing consumer confidence against the recent series of interest rate hikes.

In Canada, new orders continued to strengthen, thanks to gains in export and resource industries. Shipments rose in lock step with inventories, leaving their ratio unchanged again. The average workweek rose for the first time in eight months, a signal that a rare dip in manufacturing jobs posted in February will soon be reversed.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 193.

The February 2000 issue of Canadian economic observer (11-010-XPB, \$23/\$227) is now available. For further information, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Economic Analysis Group. See also "Current trends" on page 7.

Retail sales unchanged

In January, retail sales were unchanged from December at \$22.6 billion. This was 6.7% greater than receipts in January 1999. Sales had advanced 2.1% in December from November. Millennial festivities and concern over potential Y2K problems were partly responsible for several trade groups' advances in December—and for their subsequent retreats in January. The largest retreats were in food stores (-4.0%), liquor, wine and beer stores (-5.9%) and automotive parts, accessories and service stores (-2.7%). The strongest sales growth occurred at general merchandise and clothing stores.

January's sales retreat at food stores followed a 2.0% advance in December. Supermarkets and grocery stores lost more ground

than did specialised food stores (-4.2% and -2.6%, respectively). Despite these setbacks, sales at food stores have been on the rise since the spring of 1996. Liquor, wine and beer stores, which made large sales gains in the last three months of 1999 before January's drop, have seen their sales rise since the summer of 1996.

The declines posted by automotive parts, accessories and service stores were offset by sales increases of motor and recreational vehicle dealers (+0.5%) and gasoline service stations (+0.3%). These offsets left the automotive trade group's sales unchanged overall in January. The group's sales have been climbing more strongly since the fall of 1998.

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... Retail sales unchanged

General merchandisers posted their largest sales growth in 12 months in January (+3.8%). Robust advances occurred for department stores (+5.0%) and for "other general merchandise stores" (+2.2%). Together these advances lifted the entire trade group's sales to a level slightly above the previous peak in September 1999, which was before the store closures and restructuring among department stores. However, department store sales remained in January 3.5% below the peak reached last August. Except for a pause in the spring of 1998, general merchandisers' sales rose uninterrupted from early 1996 until last fall, when Eaton's stores closed out.

Among the other sales gains in January, sales at clothing stores were stronger (+2.7%), furniture store sales continued to advance (+2.1%) and drugstores posted a marginal increase (+0.3%).

Retail sales grew in only a few provinces in January. Quebec posted the largest dollar-value increase, with advances in all but food and clothing stores. Recent strength in retail sales in Quebec has come from the automotive and furniture trade groups.

In the four Western provinces, sales declines followed strong advances in December. The setbacks in all of these provinces occurred largely at food stores. Sales in all of these provinces generally increased in 1999. Retailers in Alberta have seen the best gains.

Available on CANSIM: 2399 and 2400 (main matrices), 2299, 2397, 2398, 2401-2416 and 2418-2420.

Retail sales, January 2000 Seasonally adjusted

	\$ millions	% change, previous month	% change, previous year
Canada	22,550	0.0	6.7
Newfoundland	360	1.3	8.0
Prince Edward Island	99	-1.7	10.8
Nova Scotia	682	-1.7	4.2
New Brunswick	566	0.6	11.2
Quebec	5,228	0.8	5.3
Ontario	8,610	0.1	8.2
Manitoba	773	-1.3	3.0
Saskatchewan	664	-1.5	4.4
Alberta	2,579	-0.1	8.6
British Columbia	2,909	-1.0	4.6
Yukon	28	-2.3	7.0
Northwest Territories	36	0.0	18.3
Nunavut	15	2.3	2.9

The January 2000 issue of **Retail trade** (print: 63-005-XPB, \$21/\$206; online at www.statcan.ca: 63-005-XIB, \$16/\$155) presents the full report. To order data, or for general information, contact Client Services (1 877 421-3067 or 613-951-3549, retailinfo@statcan.ca). For further analytical information, contact Greg Peterson (613-951-3592; petegre@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

Farm equipment wholesalers' situation improves slightly

From December to January, wholesalers saw their sales rise a slight 0.2% to \$31.2 billion. Except for a period of stagnant sales from late 1997 until mid-1998, wholesale sales have generally been on the rise for several years.

Wholesale sales, January 2000 Seasonally adjusted

	\$ millions	% change, previous month	% change, previous year
Canada	31,215	0.2	9.5
Newfoundland	215	0.8	4.6
Prince Edward Island	48	-4.4	-2.3
Nova Scotia	522	-10.3	-5.0
New Brunswick	402	-0.7	14.4
Quebec	6,442	0.3	10.0
Ontario	15,400	-0.3	8.2
Manitoba	901	2.7	5.1
Saskatchewan	880	8.2	10.7
Alberta	2,950	-0.7	13.3
British Columbia	3,431	2.4	14.8
Yukon	10	-3.9	-21.0
Northwest Territories	11	6.9	-15.9
Nunavut	3	20.4	32.9

Note to readers

Every January, wholesale sales data are revised. The seasonally adjusted data have been revised back to 1996.

Wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies reported the strongest percentage growth in sales in January (+4.3%). This followed two months of declines. Since mid-1999, these wholesalers have seen their sales level off. The recent improvements may be due in part to these wholesalers' efforts to reduce their dependence on sales of agricultural equipment.

Household goods wholesalers also showed a notable increase in sales (+4.1%). They were followed by wholesalers in the other products group (+3.1%). The other products group includes wholesalers of goods such as paper and paper products, waste materials and a variety of chemicals. In this group, much of the strength came from sales of paper and paper-related products. The demand for pulp in Asia and Europe was very high, and this put upward pressure on prices. Following the Y2K transition, wholesalers of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery started the year with a sales gain of 1.8%.

The most severe percentage decline in January occurred for wholesalers of apparel and dry goods (-7.7%). This was the second consecutive monthly drop following abnormally high sales in November. Wholesalers of food products saw a 2.7%

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... Farm equipment wholesalers' situation improves slightly

decline in sales, which resulted in a sizeable sales drop in dollar terms. January's decline was due to reduced manufacturing in this trade group, as well as to lower exports of agricultural and fish products. The decline in January followed unusually high sales of food products in December, which occurred because of millennium celebrations and some consumer stockpiling.

Wholesalers of motor vehicles, parts and accessories saw their sales fall 1.5%, also resulting in a sizeable sales decline in dollar terms. Mirroring this decline, which was the second consecutive one, inventories rose 1.5%. A number of factors might explain the drop in sales in January: auto manufacturing was virtually unchanged from December; the number of new vehicles sold in Canada was down; the strengthening Canadian dollar dampened the value of exported vehicles; and overall prices in this trade group fell.

Among the provinces, Saskatchewan's wholesalers posted the largest monthly growth in January, owing to relatively strong sales of farm machinery and equipment. Manitoba's wholesalers made the second largest sales increase, also due to more robust sales of farm machinery and equipment. In addition to the already cited rise in diversification at some of the major companies in this

trade group, there may be more sales of agricultural equipment due to the overall increase in farm cash receipts in 1999 compared with 1998. The recently announced aid packages to farmers may also be a factor.

The biggest sales decline in January was recorded by wholesalers in Nova Scotia. This followed very high sales in December, when there was a greater demand for lobster and other seafoods, likely linked to millennium celebrations. Wholesale sales also declined in Alberta, despite recent announcements about various exploration and development projects in northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

The value of inventories held by wholesalers rose 0.2% in January to \$42.0 billion. Wholesalers of beverage, drug and tobacco products recorded the steepest decline (-5.4%). Except for a brief dip during the first quarter of 1999, the value of inventories has been building for several years.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 59, 61, 648 to 649.

The January 2000 issue of *Wholesale trade* (online at www.statcan.ca: 63-008-XIB, \$14/\$140) presents the full report. To order data, or for general information, contact Client Services (613-951-3549; 1 877 421-3067; wholesaleinfo@statcan.ca). For analytical information, contact Greg Parsons (613-951-0062; parsons@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

Small businesses contribute strongly to job creation

Small businesses continued to contribute to job creation well out of proportion to their size in 1997. In fact, they were responsible for 57% of the gross increase in employment despite representing only 32% of total paid employment. In particular, businesses with fewer than five employees accounted for 26% of the gross increase, while representing just under 9% of paid employment.

Gross job creation by small businesses remained strong for a second straight year. In 1997, their job creation totalled 835,000 jobs, compared with 851,000 in 1996 and an average of 693,000 between 1991 and 1995.

However, small businesses also contributed disproportionately to employment loss, being responsible for 48% of gross employment decrease. Nonetheless, gross job loss among small businesses continued to decline. In 1997, the job loss among them totalled 482,000 jobs, compared with 501,000 in 1996 and an average of 635,000 between 1991 and 1995.

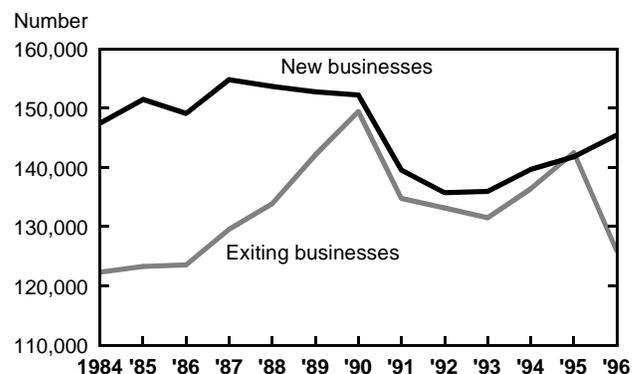
On a net basis in 1997, small firms created 353,000 more jobs than they lost. This amounted to more than three-quarters of the net employment increase observed among employers of all sizes. Manufacturing and business services led the net employment growth in small businesses. Manufacturers created 54,800 more new jobs than in 1996, representing a 15.5% increase in net job growth among small businesses. Employment among firms providing services to businesses, such as employment agencies and management consultants, grew by 50,500, which represented 14.3% of net employment growth.

Note to readers

In this article, small businesses are those with fewer than 50 employees and an annual gross operating revenue between \$30,000 and \$5 million.

The employment data do not include persons working on their own account, such as self-employed persons, since they generally have no employees. Business exits for 1997 will not be available until the 1998 data are published.

Number of new and exiting small businesses



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... Small businesses contribute strongly to job creation

In 1997, roughly 7 small businesses out of 10 made a profit. This was unchanged from 1995. The communications and utilities industry was the most profitable, with 82% of its small businesses reporting a net profit. As well, small businesses' net profit margins were \$18,500, or 5.0% of gross revenue. This was unchanged from 1995. Small firms providing services to business and to health and social services had the highest profit margins for 1997, each averaging a net profit of 13% of gross revenue. The accommodation, food and beverage service industry had the lowest profit margins; the average net profit of small businesses in this industry was only 0.4% of gross revenue. This industry also had the lowest proportion of profitable businesses (55%).

In 1996, about 145,500 small businesses began operations, up from 1995 by 2.6%. At the same time, 125,900 firms of the same size went out of business, down 11.7%. The net increase of 19,600 new firms was the largest annual gain since 1988.

Small business profiles (61F0015XCB, \$500) and Employment dynamics (61F0020XCB, \$500) are now available on CD-ROM. These products enable users to define a small business according to their specifications. To order, contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre. For analytical information, contact Michael Tjepkema (613-951-4978; tjepmic@statcan.ca), Small Business and Special Surveys Division.

A profile of Canadian exporters

In 1997, 30,738 business establishments exported goods, an increase from 1993 of 29%. During this five-year period, the value of their exports climbed 58% to \$279 billion. The increase in value occurred mainly because of the growth of existing exporters, not because of the addition of new exporters.

The value of exports grew substantially during this period in three industries: clothing (+164%), electrical and electronic products (+151%) and furniture and fixtures (+142%).

A select group of firms accounted for the majority of Canadian exports. In 1997, large businesses (those with annual exports worth \$25 million or more) represented only 4% of exporting firms but accounted for 82% of all exports. The motor vehicle industry, including parts, was the main contributor to this concentration. Excluding that industry, large businesses accounted for just 59% of all exports.

The smallest business establishments (those with annual exports worth less than \$1 million) accounted for almost 70% of all businesses but only 2% of the value of all exports. These findings were consistent from 1993 to 1997, as there was no strong trend toward any increasing levels of concentration throughout the period.

Note to readers

The profile of Canadian exporters is based on the new Canadian Exporter Registry, which contains comprehensive information on exporting business establishments and the value of their exports. This information is not available in the standard merchandise trade statistics. The Exporter Registry is a joint initiative of Statistics Canada and Team Canada Inc., a network of federal departments and agencies that delivers international business development services to Canadians.

The data presented here cover the period 1993 to 1997 and include businesses with exports worth \$30,000 or more. Data for 1998 and 1999 will be available in the fall of 2000.

The first year of an exporter's life is critical. About 50% of the businesses that were new in 1994 and 1995 were exporting in every year up to 1997. However, 30% of these new exporters became completely inactive within the first year, and continued to be at least until 1997. The remaining 20% fluctuated in and out of the Exporter Registry throughout the reference period.

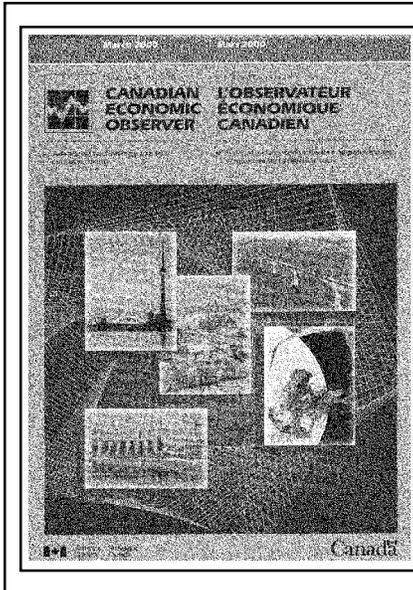
For further information about the profile of Canadian exporters and the new Canadian Exporter Registry, contact David Ogden (613-951-3318), International Trade Division.

Exporting business establishments, by value of exports

	1993			1997		
	Number of businesses	Value of exports \$ millions	Share of exports ¹ %	Number of businesses	Value of exports \$ millions	Share of exports ¹ %
Total establishments	23,892	176,348	100.0	30,738	278,857	100.0
\$30,000-\$ 99,999	7,520	434	0.2	8,068	472	0.2
\$100,000-\$999,999	9,722	3,344	1.9	12,843	4,632	1.7
\$1,000,000-\$4,999,999	3,926	9,038	5.1	5,620	13,251	4.8
\$5,000,000-\$24,999,999	1,845	21,026	11.9	2,890	33,153	11.9
\$25,000,000 and over	879	142,506	80.8	1,317	227,350	81.5

¹ Percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.

New from Statistics Canada



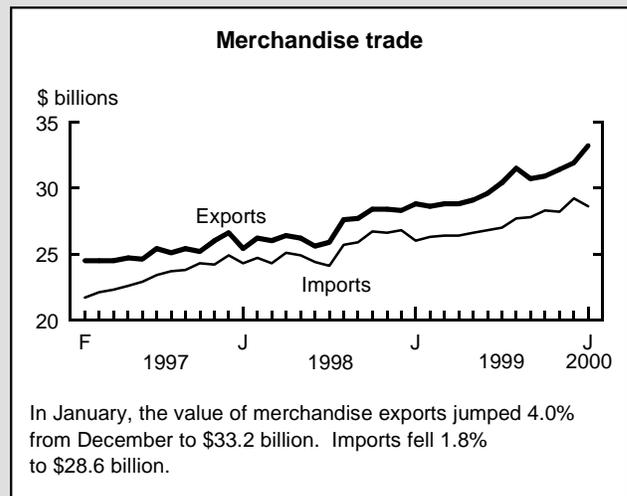
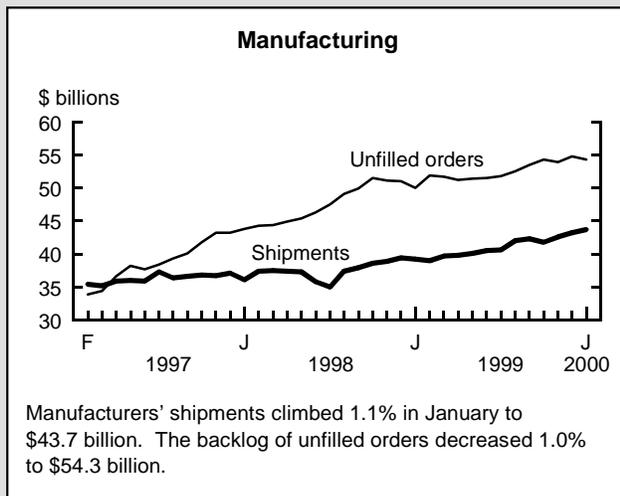
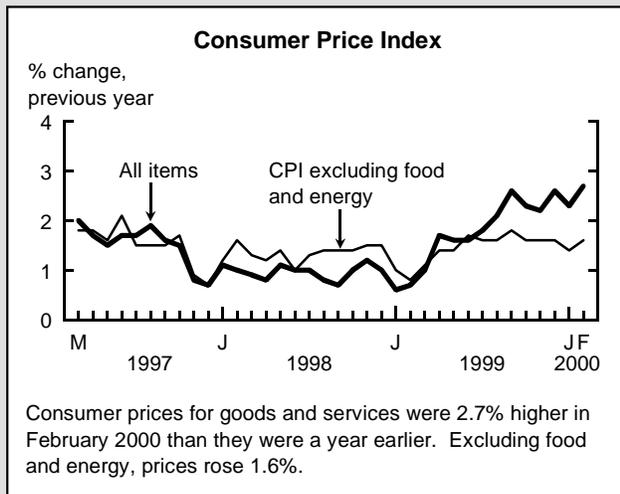
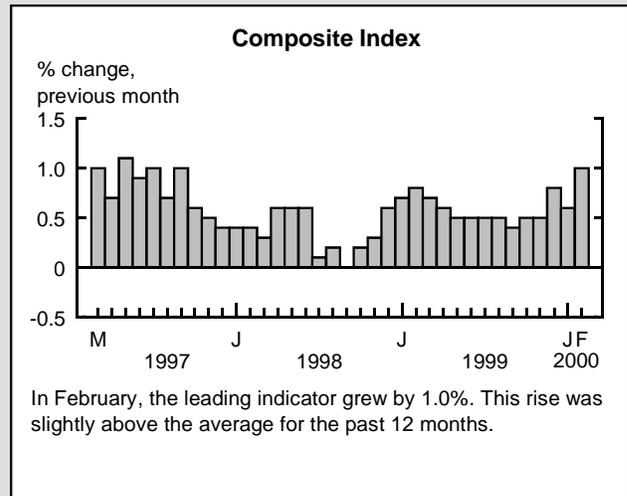
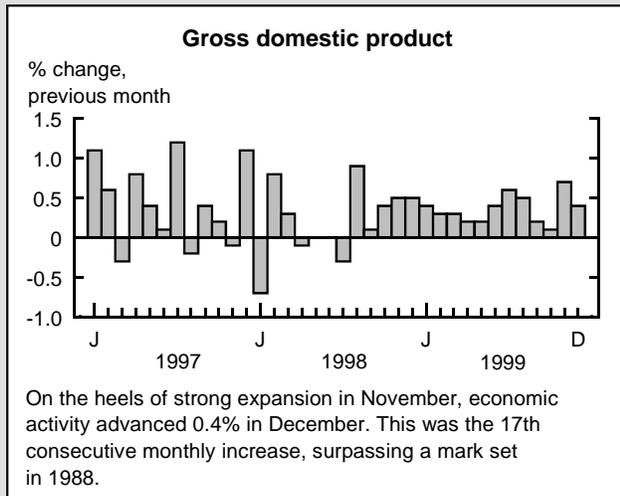
Canadian economic observer March 2000

The March issue of *Canadian economic observer*, Statistics Canada's flagship publication for economic statistics, analyses current economic conditions, summarizes the major economic events that occurred in February and presents a feature article. This month, the feature article is about advanced technology use in manufacturing during the 1990s.

A separate statistical summary presents the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and the major industrial nations.

*The March issue of **Canadian economic observer** (11-010-XPB, \$23/\$227) is now available. For more information, contact Cyndi Bloskie (613-951-3634; ceo@statcan.ca), Current Economic Analysis Group.*

Current trends



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)	December	766.6	0.4%	4.6%
Composite Index (1992=100)	February	158.2	1.0%	7.4%
Operating profits of enterprises (\$ billion)	Q4 1999	43.9	7.8%	27.1%
Capacity utilization (%)	Q4 1999	86.8	1.3†	4.0†
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail trade (\$ billion)	January*	22.5	0.0%	6.7%
Department store sales (\$ billions)	January	1.53	7.0%	1.2%
New motor vehicle sales (thousand of units)	January	133.6	-7.2%	8.2%
Wholesale trade (\$ billion)	January	31.2	0.2%	9.5%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	February	14.83	0.2%	3.0%
Unemployment rate (%)	February	6.8	0.0†	-1.1†
Participation rate (%)	February	65.8	0.1†	0.3†
Average weekly earnings (\$)	January*	618.85	0.3%	2.0%
Help-wanted Index (1996=100)	February	170	1.2%	13.3%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise exports (\$ billion)	January	33.2	4.0%	15.1%
Merchandise imports (\$ billion)	January	28.6	-1.8%	9.9%
Merchandise trade balance (all figures in \$ billion)	January	4.5	1.8	1.8
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments (\$ billion)	January	43.7	1.1%	11.6%
New orders (\$ billion)	January	43.2	-2.1%	13.0%
Unfilled orders (\$ billion)	January	54.3	-1.0%	8.4%
Inventory/shipments ratio	January	1.28	0.00	-0.02
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1992=100)	February	112.0	0.5%	2.7%
Industrial Product Price Index (1992=100)	January	124.5	0.0%	4.4%
Raw Materials Price Index (1992=100)	January	134.9	0.5%	30.0%
New Housing Price Index (1992=100)	January	102.0	0.0%	1.7%

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

* new this week

† percentage point

Infomat

A weekly review

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Editor: Tim Prichard (613) 951-1197; prictim@statcan.ca
Acting Head, Official Release: Dan Smythe (613) 951-1088; smytdan@statcan.ca

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Publications released from March 23 to 29, 2000

Division/Title of publication	Period	Catalogue number	Price: Issue/Subscription	
			Canada (C\$)	Outside Canada (US\$)
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL FLOWS				
Canada's balance of international payments	Q4 1999			
Internet		67-001-XIB	29/93	
Paper		67-001-XPB	38/124	38/124
Canada's international investment position	1999	67-202-XIB	39	
Canada's international transactions in securities	December 1999			
Internet		67-002-XIB	14/132	
Paper		67-002-XPB	18/176	18/176
CURRENT ECONOMIC ANALYSIS				
Canadian economic observer	March 2000	11-010-XPB	23/227	23/227
INCOME STATISTICS				
Quarterly estimates of trustee pension funds	Q3 1999	74-001-XPB	19/62	19/62
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Canadian international merchandise trade	January 2000			
Internet		65-001-XIB	14/141	
Paper		65-001-XPB	19/188	19/188
Imports by commodity	January 2000			
Microfiche		65-007-XMB	37/361	37/361
Paper		65-007-XPB	78/773	78/773
MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION AND ENERGY				
Production and disposition of tobacco products	February 2000	32-022-XIB	5/47	
Pulpwood and wood residue statistics	January 2000	25-001-XIB	6/55	

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 or compact disc.

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Montréal, Québec
H2Z 1X4

Local calls: (514) 283-5725
Toll free: 1 800 263-1136
Fax: (514) 283-9350

National Capital Region

Statistical Reference Centre (NCR)
Statistics Canada
Lobby, R.H. Coats Building
Holland Avenue
Tunney's Pasture
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0T6

Local calls: (613) 951-8116
Toll free: 1 800 263-1136
Fax: (613) 951-0581
E-mail: infostats@statcan.ca

Ontario

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
10th Floor
Arthur Meighen Building
25 St. Clair Avenue East
Toronto, Ontario
M4T 1M4

Local calls: (416) 973-6586
Toll free: 1 800 263-1136
Fax: (416) 973-7475

Manitoba

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Via Rail Building, Suite 200
123 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 4V9

Local calls: (204) 983-4020
Toll free: 1 800 263-1136
Fax: (204) 983-7543
E-mail: statswpg@accglobal.net

Saskatchewan

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Park Plaza, Suite 440
2365 Albert Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4P 4K1

Local calls: (306) 780-5405
Toll free: 1 800 263-1136
Fax: (306) 780-5403
E-mail: statcan@sk.sympatico.ca

Southern Alberta

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Discovery Place, Room 201
3553-31 Street N.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T2L 2K7

Local calls: (403) 292-6717
Toll free: 1 800 263-1136
Fax: (403) 292-4958
E-mail: degagnej@cadvision.com

Northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
15th Floor, Park Square
10001 Bellamy Hill
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 3B6

Local calls: (780) 495-3027
Toll free: 1 800 263-1136
Fax: (780) 495-5318
E-mail: ewieall@statcan.ca

British Columbia and the Yukon

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Library Square Tower, Suite 600
300 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6B 6C7

Local calls: (604) 666-3691
Toll free: 1 800 263-1136
Fax: (604) 666-4863
E-mail: stcvan@statcan.ca

Telecommunications Device for the Hearing Impaired

Toll free: 1 800 363-7629

Calendar of key releases: April 2000				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3 Film, video and audio-visual production, 1997/98*	4 Building permits, February 2000	5 Quarterly retail commodity survey, 1999*	6	7 Labour force survey, March 2000
10	11	12 Help-wanted index, March 2000 New housing price index, February 2000	13 New motor vehicle sales, February 2000	14
17 Consumer price index, March 2000 Composite index, March 2000 Travel between Canada and other countries, February 2000	18 Monthly survey of manufacturing, February 2000	19 Canadian international merchandise trade, February 2000 Wholesale trade, February 2000	20 Crop seeding intentions, March 2000	21
24	25	26 Retail trade, February 2000 Canada's international transactions in securities, February 2000	27 Employment, earnings and hours, February 2000	28 Real GDP at factor cost by industry, February 2000 Employment insurance, February 2000

Note: Except for the releases marked with an asterisk, all the release dates in this calendar are fixed. A more detailed calendar of fixed release dates for the entire year is available from Statistics Canada's Web site at www.statcan.ca.