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OVERVIEW

- **High-tech industries drive capacity use rates higher**

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- **Increase in labour force pushes unemployment rate up**

  In August, employment grew by 27,000. Even so, a large increase in the number of people in the labour force pushed the unemployment rate up 0.3 percentage points to 7.1%.

- **Unemployment rates higher using alternative methods**

  In 1997, the unemployment rate among families was more than one-and-a-half times higher than the official rate for individuals. Likewise, a rate based on a one-year reference period has tended to be almost double the official rate.

- **Corporations' operating profits continue to climb**

  In the second quarter, the operating profits of corporations climbed to an all-time high of $51.9 billion (+1.7%). The latest rise in profits was entirely ascribed to non-financial corporations.

- **Value of building permits ahead of last year**

  In July, the value of building permits was unchanged from June. However, the year-to-date value was 6.4% above the corresponding value for 1999 and the highest since 1989.

- **Teenagers are the ones most likely to migrate from rural areas**

  Between 1991 and 1996, rural communities experienced a net loss of 12% of their population of teenagers. However, rural areas are not always net losers of people. Their population of individuals age 25 to 64 increased in most provinces.

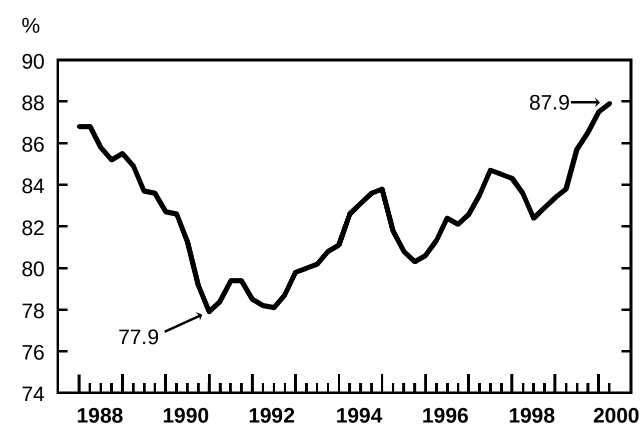
High-tech industries drive capacity use rates higher

Industry in the second quarter operated at 87.9% of capacity, a rate slightly higher than in the first quarter. This marked the seventh straight quarterly increase. During the first half of 2000, industry operated at rates of capacity not seen since the mid-1960s.

Manufacturers provided the main impetus in the second quarter. In particular, producers of computers and other high-tech equipment benefited from strong export demand and robust levels of business investment. Manufacturers raised their capacity use rate for a seventh straight quarter, bringing it to 88.4%—half a percentage point below the 1974 historical peak. Although that marked a 0.6% advance over the first quarter, it was due primarily to a few key industries. Only 9 of the of the 22 industry groups in manufacturing raised their rates, while 10 recorded lower rates

In the past, high capacity use rates have been associated with impending inflation. However, rates have been high for some time and inflationary pressures are still in check. One key element that would sustain a rise in inflation is pressure from unit labour costs. However, from 1998 to 1999 (the latest data), the unit labour cost of goods-producing businesses was unchanged in spite of several years of generally rising employment.

Industrial capacity utilization rate



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Statistics Canada Statistique Canada
Canada

... High-tech industries drive capacity use rates higher

One reason for this situation is the increase in labour productivity (+2.1% in the goods sector in 1999 over 1998) that has been brought about by strong business investment in high-tech plant and equipment. Because of efficiencies embodied in the new technology, businesses can now respond to increasing demand and operate at higher capacity use rates without facing higher costs that would force them to raise the prices of their products.

These efficiency gains have led to strong corporate profits that, in turn, have encouraged businesses to strive for further technological gains. In 2000, investment in plant and equipment is expected to reach record levels.

In the second quarter, three manufacturing industries reached new peaks of capacity use: electrical and electronic products, rubber products and furniture and fixtures. Electrical and electronic products was mainly responsible for the increase in the manufacturing sector. The electrical and electronic products industries' capacity use rate rose 3.5 percentage points to 98.9%—all but at full capacity. Responding to the pressure, businesses in this industry expect to spend approximately $1.5 billion on plant and equipment in 2000, an increase of 19% over 1999.

Producers of items for businesses rather than homes were behind a rise in furniture and fixtures output. The industries' rate of capacity use rose 4.4 percentage points to 92.2%—surpassing the previous peak set in the second quarter of 1973.

In non-manufacturing, capacity use rates were up in all industries except construction. Mining and quarrying established a new historical peak, largely on the strength of increased drilling activity. Output of oil and gas also increased. Electric power production rose during the quarter, driven by the sharp increase in manufacturing activity. Electric utilities' capacity use rate rose to 91.4%—a new record peak. The gas distribution industry also stepped up output, leading to capacity use of 77.1%—its highest rate in almost three years. Construction activity declined partly because building in the Greater Toronto Area was hampered by a strike that lasted several weeks.

For further information, contact Susanna Wood (613-951-0655) or Richard Landry (613-951-2579), Investment and Capital Stock Division.

Industrial capacity utilization rates, Second quarter 2000

	%	% point change, previous quarter	% point change, previous year
Total, non-farm goods-producing industries	**87.9**	**0.4**	**4.1**
Logging and forestry	93.9	1.0	6.7
Mining (including milling) and quarrying	94.8	1.6	18.9
Crude oil and natural gas	73.5	1.2	1.8
Manufacturing	88.4	0.6	3.7
Wood	91.9	-0.7	3.8
Furniture and fixtures	92.2	4.4	8.5
Primary metals	92.0	-1.5	-0.6
Fabricated metal products	86.9	0.0	4.4
Machinery	83.8	1.5	7.0
Transportation equipment	93.0	0.0	3.4
Electrical and electronic products	98.9	3.5	15.8
Non-metallic mineral products	82.9	-1.2	-4.7
Food	83.0	1.4	2.6
Beverages	90.5	-0.9	4.6
Rubber products	97.7	0.5	6.0
Plastic products	82.5	-3.2	-2.9
Primary textiles	79.5	-1.4	-0.2
Textile products	81.3	-3.6	-1.2
Clothing	89.5	2.8	4.6
Paper and allied products	94.3	0.7	4.8
Printing and publishing	87.4	2.0	5.3
Refined petroleum and coal products	93.8	2.0	-0.4
Chemical and chemical products	78.2	0.0	-2.1
Construction	90.0	-0.9	2.5
Electric power	91.4	0.7	3.9
Gas distribution	77.1	1.2	4.0

Increase in labour force pushes unemployment rate up

Employment increased by 27,000 in August. That followed slight declines in June and July. Since March, monthly employment growth has averaged 9,000, much slower than the average monthly growth of 44,000 from September 1999 to February 2000. Despite the employment gain in August, a large increase in the number of people in the labour force (+86,000) pushed the unemployment rate up 0.3 percentage points to 7.1%.

Part-time employment rose 24,000 and offset July's decline, while full-time employment was little changed. Since March, full-time employment growth has slowed compared with late 1999 and early 2000.

Among adult women (25 years and over), employment rose slightly (+15,000), mainly in full-time. A substantial increase in labour force participation pushed their unemployment rate up 0.3 percentage points to 6.0%. Among adult men, part-time employment grew by 16,000, whereas full-time employment edged down. Full-time employment among adult men has fallen since February by 25,000. In August, their unemployment rate rose 0.3 percentage points to 5.8%.

Related information on employment insurance

In June (the latest data), the estimated number of Canadians (unadjusted for seasonal trends) who received the regular type of employment insurance (EI) benefit totalled 375,440, a decrease of 10.1% from June 1999. Except for Nova Scotia and Manitoba, all provinces and territories recorded year-over-year decreases. The amount paid out as regular benefits (adjusted for seasonal trends) increased 0.7% from May to June to $598.3 million; however, this was a 5.6% decrease from June 1999. From May to June, the number of EI claims filed by the jobless decreased 1.6% to 211,980 claims.

Statistics Canada and Human Resources Development Canada have discovered that the number of EI beneficiaries for the months from January 1997 to April 2000 has been underestimated. So those data series will be revised. Until then, data on the number of beneficiaries will be aggregated only at the provincial level, be unadjusted for seasonal trends, and will not be available on CANSIM. Readers are cautioned against making any analytical comparisons between these data and any monthly or historical data previously released. For more information, contact Robert Keay (613-951-4090, labour@statcan.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

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... Increase in labour force pushes unemployment rate up

Youth employment was little changed in August. So far this year, monthly employment growth among youths has averaged 3,000, much slower than the average monthly growth of 9,000 in the second half of 1999. The youth unemployment rate rose 0.4 percentage points to 13.0%. Overall, the summer labour market for students improved in 2000 compared with 1999. From June to August, the average student employment rate was 53.4%, up 1.9 percentage points, while their unemployment rate averaged 13.6%, down 1.3 percentage points. The improvement in summer labour-market conditions was greatest for teenage students who were 15 and 16 years old.

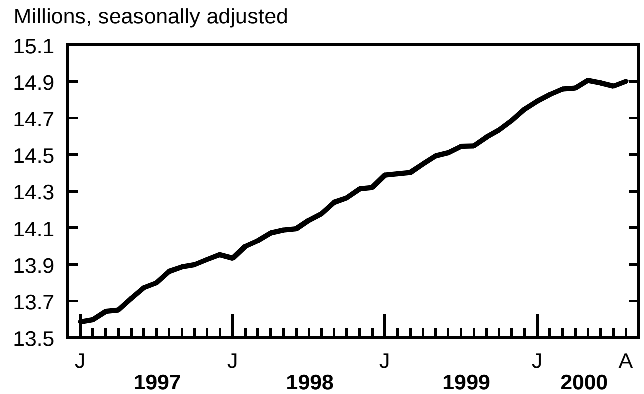
The service-producing sector saw job growth of 44,000 in August. Employment in trade, after little growth from April to July, increased by 29,000. In health care and social assistance, 19,000 jobs were added, partly offsetting the decline in July. So far this year, this industry's job growth has totalled 66,000 (+4.5%). Employment also grew in August in information, culture and recreation (+12,000) and in "other services" (+22,000), which includes personal and household services as well as repair and maintenance services. Public administration saw its first employment increase in several months (+11,000).

In the goods-producing sector, employment declined slightly in August (-17,000). The construction industry saw job losses of 19,000. Employment in construction is little changed so far this year. Manufacturing employment was virtually unchanged in August following declines in June and July. The recent employment weakness in manufacturing has been concentrated in Quebec.

August's job growth was concentrated in British Columbia (+15,000). This growth, which partly offset the decline in July, occurred in the service-producing sector and in agriculture. Despite the gain in employment, a large increase in labour force participation in the province pushed unemployment up by 19,000 causing the unemployment rate there to rise 0.8 percentage points to 7.9%.

In Ontario, employment was little changed following a gain of 29,000 in July. The number of persons in the labour force increased substantially in Ontario in August (+53,000), and so the province's unemployment rate increased 0.7 percentage points to 6.0%. In Quebec, despite little change in employment in August, the unemployment rate fell 0.4 percentage points to 8.4%. Since the start of the year, employment in Quebec is up by only 15,000.

Employment



Employment in New Brunswick rose for a second consecutive month in August (+3,000). Despite this growth, employment in the province is only slightly higher than at the start of the year. In Manitoba, after three months of little change, job growth in August totalled 4,000. Employment declined by 4,000 in Saskatchewan, bringing the job losses since March to 12,000. Employment in other provinces was little changed in August.

The full report, ***Labour force information, for the week ending August 19, 2000*** *(print: 71-001-PPB, $11/$103; online at www.statcan.ca: 71-001-PIB, $8/$78), is now available. For further information, contact Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750) or Jacques Ouellet (613-951-4168), Labour Statistics Division. See also "Current trends" on page 9.*

Labour Force Survey, August 2000
Seasonally adjusted[1]

	Labour force		Employment		Unemployment	
	'000	% change, previous month	'000	% change, previous month	'000	rate (%)
Canada	**16,036.5**	**0.5**	**14,900.8**	**0.2**	**1,135.7**	**7.1**
Newfoundland	241.3	0.5	203.5	1.0	37.8	15.7
Prince Edward Island	73.1	0.3	63.8	-0.2	9.3	12.7
Nova Scotia	459.9	-0.5	416.3	-0.8	43.6	9.5
New Brunswick	374.4	0.8	336.1	0.8	38.3	10.2
Quebec	3,756.9	-0.4	3 441.0	0.0	315.8	8.4
Ontario	6,256.9	0.9	5,880.9	0.1	375.9	6.0
Manitoba	588.1	0.7	558.2	0.7	29.9	5.1
Saskatchewan	509.5	-0.3	479.5	-0.9	30.1	5.9
Alberta	1,666.2	0.5	1,577.6	0.4	88.6	5.3
British Columbia	2,110.1	1.6	1,943.9	0.8	166.3	7.9

[1] *Data are for both sexes aged 15 and over.*

Unemployment rates higher using alternative methods

In 1997, the unemployment rate among families was more than one-and-a-half times higher than the official unemployment rate for individuals, according to a new study that examines alternative measures for unemployment. Likewise, an unemployment rate based on a one-year reference period has generally tended to be almost double the official rate, which is based on the average of 12 one-week reference periods.

The 1997 official unemployment rate for individuals was 9.1%. Alternatively, measured according to family, the unemployment rate that year was 15.2%. In other words, while 1 in every 11 people on average in the labour force was unemployed, 1 in 7 families with at least one member in the labour force was affected.

This is not surprising because a family has greater exposure to the labour force and to the possibility of at least one member experiencing unemployment. During the past 20 years, family unemployment rates have been consistently higher than individual unemployment rates.

A one-year reference period also yields consistently higher unemployment rates than the official method. Using the one-year period, the unemployment rate for individuals was 17.3% in 1997, compared with 28.2% for families. This translates into almost one in six people in the labour force who were unemployed at one point during the year, and more than one in four families with at least one member in the labour force that was affected.

So, when labour force experience is observed over an entire year, as opposed to averaging 12 independently measured weekly reference periods, a larger number of persons are measured as unemployed. There are a couple of reasons for this.

First, an annual average of 12 observations (the official method) produces a smaller number of unemployed whenever the duration of unemployment is less than one year. Indeed, for most people (about 70% in 1997), unemployment lasts less than six months.

Second, someone employed for 51 weeks, but looking for work during just one week of the year, would be counted as having experienced unemployment under the one-year reference period method. The monthly survey, by contrast, would count that person only if that one week of unemployment happened to fall in the reference period (usually the week including the 15th of the month).

By far, Newfoundland had the highest unemployment rate of all provinces, whether measured by one-week or one-year reference periods, both for individuals and families. Saskatchewan had the lowest rate except in the case of the one-week reference period for individuals, where Alberta had the lowest rate.

This article is based on a report titled "Unemployment kaleidoscope", which appears in the Autumn 2000 issue of ***Perspectives on labour and income*** *(75-001-XPE, $18/$58) is now available. For more information, contact Ernest B. Akyeampong (613-951-4624; akyeern@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.*

Unemployment affects more than just individuals

Since most Canadians belong to families, the number of unemployed people for any given period does not express the full socio-economic impact of unemployment. On average, 1.4 million individuals were unemployed in 1997 (based on a one-week reference period). Of this 1.4 million, 84% (or 1.2 million) belonged to families. Including the 1.1 million family members (including children) of those who were unemployed, some 2.5 million people on average were affected either directly or indirectly by unemployment in 1997, almost double the number actually unemployed. Use of a one-year reference period yields an even greater number.

Proportion of people affected by unemployment, 1997

	One-week reference period[1]	One-year reference period[2]
	%	
Canada	**8.4**	**19.2**
Newfoundland	12.8	39.2
Prince Edward Island	13.5	33.9
Nova Scotia	9.7	26.1
New Brunswick	10.2	30.4
Quebec	9.3	21.6
Ontario	8.2	16.4
Manitoba	6.0	13.8
Saskatchewan	5.2	12.5
Alberta	6.1	15.4
British Columbia	7.8	19.3

1 *Average of 12 reference weeks.*
2 *Annual reference period.*

Corporations' operating profits continue to climb

In the second quarter, corporations posted their seventh consecutive quarterly increase in operating profits. Profits rose 1.7% from the previous quarter to an all-time high of $51.9 billion, led by gains in the oil and gas extraction, transportation services and automotive manufacturing industries. The entire rise in profits in the second quarter was ascribed to non-financial corporations, where operating profits grew 5.0%.

Notes to readers

The quarterly financial statistics for enterprises for 1988 through 1999 were revised when the data for the first quarter of 2000 where released earlier this year. The survey has undergone significant methodological changes over the past year and a half, notably the conversion to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS Canada 1997). These quarterly financial statistics cover the domestic activities of non-government corporations.

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... Corporations' operating profits continue to climb

Overall, corporate operating profits climbed 21.6% from the second quarter of last year and 52.4% above the $34.1 billion in profits earned in the third quarter of 1998, the most recent low.

The oil and gas extraction industry enjoyed an 11.6% quarter-to-quarter surge in profits to $4.0 billion. Compared with the same quarter a year earlier, this industry's operating revenue ramped up 61.0%. Crude oil prices continued to climb in the second quarter, as domestic and foreign demand was strong and as inventories were drained down. Natural gas producers, meanwhile, profited from a sales boost that was driven by strong domestic demand. As well, expanded pipeline facilities allowed producers to take advantage of a growing U.S. appetite for Canadian natural gas.

The transportation and warehousing industry's profits jumped from $0.7 billion in the first quarter to $1.2 billion in the second. Transportation companies were kept busy by increased shipments in the manufacturing sector. The airlines also posted upbeat results.

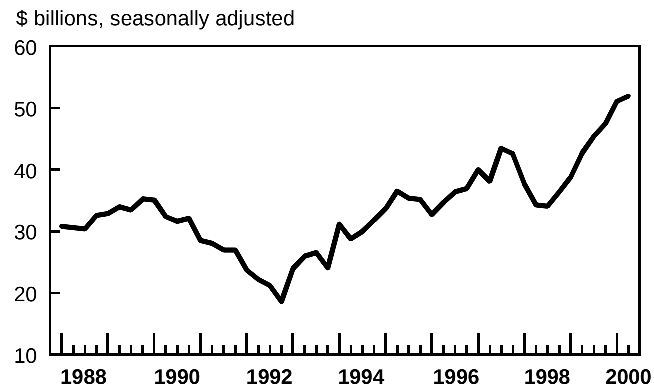
Manufacturers—who account more than one-fourth of all corporate profits—reported $14.3 billion in operating profits in the second quarter, up 2.3% from the first quarter. Manufacturers' profits have now strengthened for eight consecutive quarters. In particular, makers of motor vehicles and parts saw their profits vault 20.8% to an all-time high of $2.8 billion. North American demand for new vehicles remained robust, while exports of auto parts reached record levels.

Financial statistics for enterprises
Seasonally adjusted

	Q2 1999	Q1 2000[r]	Q2 2000[p]	Q1 2000 to Q2 2000
	$ billions			% change
All industries				
Operating revenue	473.8	506.5	508.2	0.3
Operating profit	42.7	51.1	51.9	1.7
Non-financial industries				
Operating revenue	417.3	447.4	448.0	0.1
Operating profit	29.4	35.1	36.8	5.0
Financial industries				
Operating revenue	56.5	59.1	60.2	1.9
Operating profit	13.3	16.0	15.1	-5.6

r *Revised data.*
p *Preliminary data, see note to readers.*

Operating profits (all industries)



Makers of electronics and computers posted their fourth straight quarterly advance in profits, which bounded 11.8% from first-quarter levels. Accelerating need for high-speed communications devices and the electronic components used in fibre optics and other high-technology equipment boosted sales and profits. Petroleum and coal product manufacturers (including refineries) reported a 12.7% increase in profits. Wood and paper producers saw their profits slip 6.4%. Despite this decline, however, profits remained 46.1% above second-quarter 1999 levels.

In the financial industries, operating profits fell 5.6% to $15.1 billion. This was largely due to profit declines in funds and other financial vehicles (excluding pension funds), which earned 14.5% less in operating profits in the second quarter on an operating revenue slide of 9.5%. Both declines reflected a retreat from the unusually high gains recorded in the first quarter from the sale of securities and other assets. Excluding the funds, the financial industries showed a 2.9% increase in profits.

The profit margin (all industries) strengthened in the second quarter to 10.2%. This profitability indicator has now increased for seven straight quarters. Return on shareholders' equity, meanwhile, slipped from 9.7% in the first quarter, down to 8.9% in the second. However, that was much improved from the 7.7% average returns seen in 1999. The decline in the second quarter was because of lower capital gains in the non-financial sector.

To order data, or for general information, contact Jeannine D'Angelo (613-951-2604), Client Services. For further analytical information, contact Bill Potter (613-951-2662) or Jean-Pierre Simard (613-951-0741), Industrial Organization and Finance Division.

Value of building permits ahead of last year

In July, the value of building permits was unchanged from June at $3.1 billion. A gain in the non-residential sector (+2.2% to $1.4 billion) was completely offset by a drop in the residential (-1.6% to $1.7 billion). In the first seven months of the year, however, the value of building permits reached $21.5 billion, a 6.4% advance over the same period in 1999. Moreover, that marks the best performance for a January-to-July period of any year since 1989.

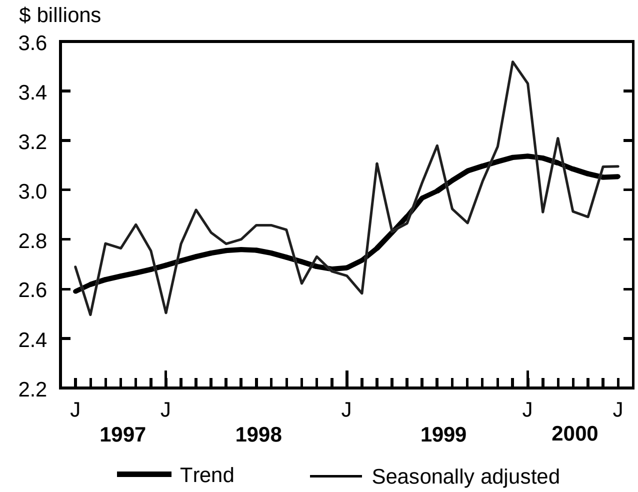
Year-to-date residential building intentions were up 6.2% to $11.9 billion. That increase is due to an 8.8% gain in single-family dwellings. The value for multi-family dwellings has remained essentially unchanged so far this year. The highest year-to-date residential advances have occurred in Ontario, Quebec and Alberta, whereas British Columbia and New Brunswick are behind 1999 values.

In Calgary and Ottawa, the year-to-date growth of building permits has surpassed that of all other metropolitan areas (in dollar terms). This has resulted from good market conditions. In Ottawa, the gain has been due to increased intentions to build office buildings and single-family dwellings. The gain in Calgary has come largely from hotels, restaurants and projects in the education category.

So far this year, municipalities have issued $9.6 billion in non-residential building permits, up 6.6% from the same period in 1999 and the best showing for a January-to-July period since 1989. The largest advance has occurred in Alberta, followed by Ontario.

Commercial building projects have increased 10.1% to $5.3 billion. Notable gains in trade and services building intentions and office projects have led the way, reflecting declining vacancy rates for commercial space. Industrial permit values have risen 2.9% to $2.2 billion, owing mainly to an increase in manufacturing plant projects. For institutional projects, the value of permits has increased 2.3% to $2.1 billion. The gains have come mostly from education and government building projects. Medical and hospital projects have declined substantially compared with the same period in 1999.

Value of building permits



In July, intentions to build multi-family dwellings dipped 6.8% following two robust monthly gains. For single-family dwellings, the value edged up a marginal 0.7%. Increases in Ontario and Nova Scotia tempered the slowdown. The increase in Ontario came from single-family dwellings. It was the best monthly showing for residential permits in Nova Scotia since February 1989.

The value of non-residential building permits was pushed up single-handedly in July by the commercial component, which climbed 10.3%. The largest contribution came from the hotel category. The most significant increases (in dollar terms) were in Ontario and Quebec, where the push came from permits for commercial buildings. The largest monthly decreases occurred in Alberta and British Columbia, where all three non-residential components declined.

The July 2000 issue of ***Building permits*** *(online at www.statcan.ca: 64-001-XIB, $19/$186) presents the full report. For general information, contact Vere Clark (613-951-6556; clarver@statcan.ca). For further analytical information, contact Étienne Saint-Pierre (613-951-2025; saineti@statcan.ca), Investment and Capital Stock Division.*

Teenagers are the ones most likely to migrate from rural areas

Between 1991 and 1996, rural communities experienced a net loss of 12% of their population of teenagers aged 15 to 19 in 1991. All provinces saw a net loss of teenagers in their rural communities, with the most substantial net losses (between -21% and -25%) seen in Saskatchewan and Newfoundland. That compares with only -3% in British Columbia.

However, rural areas are not always net losers of people. Individuals aged 25 to 64 migrated according to much different patterns. From 1991 to 1996, rural communities saw their population of individuals in this age group increase 4% overall; and it increased in most provinces, particularly Ontario and British Columbia.

Note to readers

This article summarizes some of the findings of a new study titled "Rural youth: stayers, leavers and return migrants", which examines the migration patterns of young persons in rural areas. In particular, the study looks at the extent to which young individuals leave and/or return to rural communities and, as a result, the extent to which rural areas see a decline in their youth population. The study does not take into account deaths or international migration.

While all provinces saw a net loss of teenagers in their rural communities from 1991 to 1996, most provinces saw net gains of young individuals aged 25 to 29 in rural areas. British Columbia saw the greatest growth in the number of those in their late

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...Teenagers are the ones most likely to migrate from rural areas

twenties (+21%). Furthermore, all provinces except Newfoundland and Saskatchewan saw net gains of rural 30- to 64-year-olds. Whether rural communities suffered a net loss of individuals aged 20 to 24 is unclear. As a result of these trends, the rural population aged 15 and over rose in the four largest provinces—Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and British Columbia.

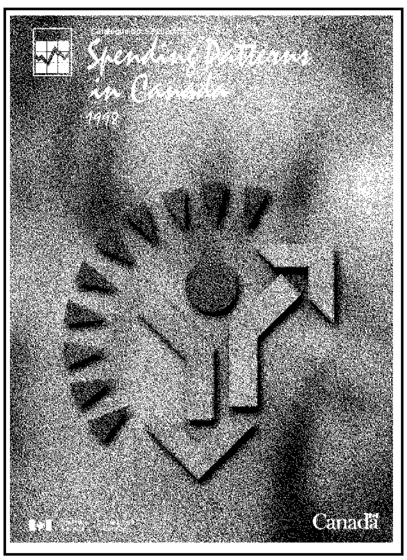
Although the study did not investigate the reasons behind the migration patterns of teenagers, it is likely that any of several factors—such as the need to pursue post-secondary education, the desire to gain independence, the wish to fulfil aspirations or to "discover the world" and the desire to get a (well-paid) job—might explain the decision to migrate from a rural to an urban area. The reasons underlying the net gains in rural communities of individuals aged 25 to 64 are currently unknown.

Labour-market conditions in rural areas are less favourable. In 1996, the unemployment rate of those aged 15 to 29 who were not full-time students was 12% in urban areas, whereas it was 17% in rural areas. As well, the full-year full-time employment rate of youths in 1995 was 49% in urban areas, compared with 39% in rural areas. This rural rate was lowest in Newfoundland (22%) and highest in Ontario (45%).

Inter-provincial differences in unemployment coincide with inter-provincial differences in net migration flows. In rural areas, the unemployment rate for those aged 15 to 29 in 1996 who were not full-time students was 27% in the Atlantic provinces, compared with only 11% in Alberta and 16% in British Columbia.

The research paper ***Rural youth: stayers, leavers and return migrants*** *(11F0019MPE, $5/$25) is now available. An electronic version (11F0019MIE, no charge) is available on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca). Look under "Products and services", then choose "Downloadable research papers (free)". A condensed version of the study, "Rural roots", appears in the Autumn 2000 issue of* ***Perspectives on labour and income*** *(75-001-XPE). For further analytical information on this subject, contact René Morissette (613-951-3608; moriren@statcan.ca), Business and Labour Market Analysis Division.*

New from Statistics Canada



Spending patterns in Canada
1998

Spending patterns in Canada presents key findings from the annual Survey of Household Spending. The survey collects information about household and family expenditures on a wide variety of goods and services—from food and shelter to pet expenses and movie admissions. It also collects data about dwelling characteristics, household appliances, home entertainment and communications equipment, and vehicles.

Spending patterns in Canada, 1998 *(online at www.statcan.ca: 62-202-XIE, $34; print: 62-202-XPE, $45) is now available. For more information, contact Client Services (1 888 297-7355; 613-951-7355; fax: 613-951-3012; income@statcan.ca), Income Statistics Division.*

New from Statistics Canada

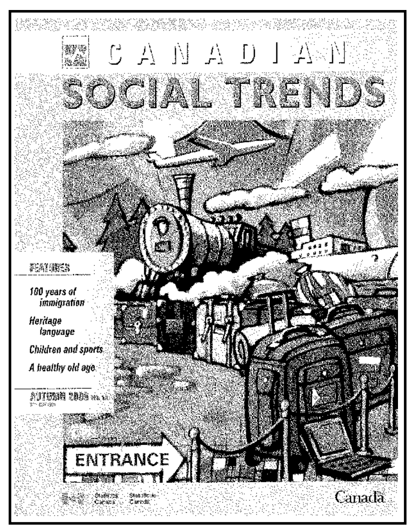
Occupational health surveillance in Canada: Cause-specific mortality among workers
1965 to 1991

The first Canada-wide publication of occupational mortality risks is now available on CD-ROM. This new product can help identify occupational groups across Canada that have experienced excessive mortality owing to specific causes. It will also help detect previously unsuspected associations between illness (e.g., cancer) and occupation and be a powerful tool for both generating and testing hypotheses. The data are the results of a longitudinal follow-up of a sample of 700,000 men and women who were in the Canadian workforce for at least one year during the reference period.

The CD-ROM will be of interest to professionals in public health, workers' compensation and safety boards, ministries of health and labour, regulatory agencies, corporations, unions, personnel and medical departments, women's studies scholars and the general public.

Occupational surveillance in Canada: Cause-specific mortality among workers, 1965 to 1991 *(84-546-XCB, $500) is now available. For more information, contact Maureen Carpenter (613-951-1760; maureen.carpenter@statcan.ca) or Custom Client Services (613-951-1746), Health Statistics Division.*

Canadian social trends
Autumn 2000



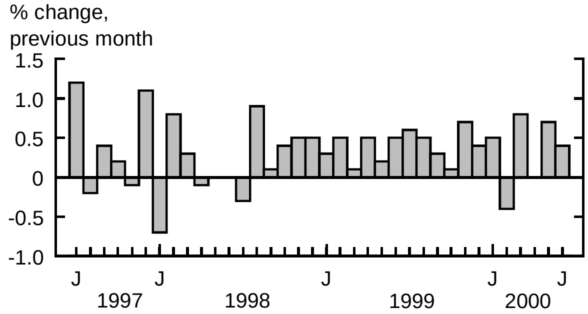
The Autumn 2000 issue of *Canadian social trends* features articles entitled "100 years of immigration in Canada", "Passing on the language: heritage language diversity in Canada", "A family affair: children's participation in sports", and "Dependence-free life expectancy in Canada".

Each quarter, *Canadian social trends* integrates data from many sources to examine emerging social trends and issues. It also features the latest social indicators, as well as information about Statistics Canada's products and services.

The Autumn 2000 issue of ***Canadian social trends*** *(online at www.statcan.ca: 11-008-XIE, $8/$27; print: 11-008-XPE, $11/$36) is now available. For more information, contact Susan Crompton (613-951-2556; cstsc@statcan.ca), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division.*

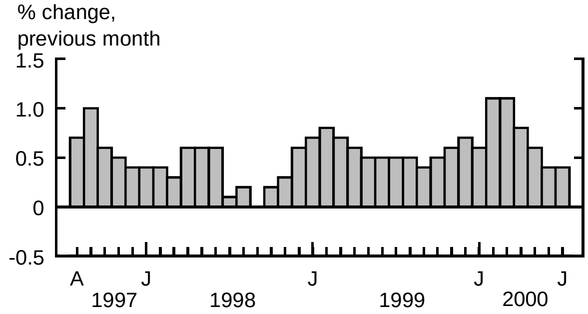
Current trends

Gross domestic product



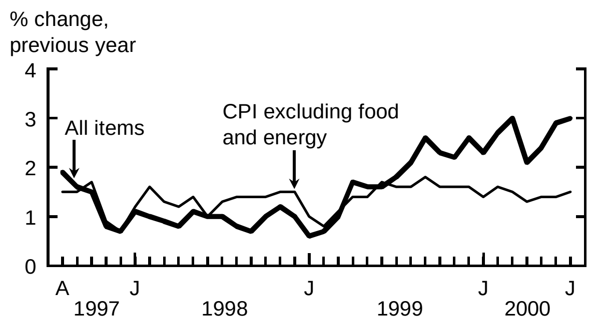
On the heels of a strong 0.7% gain in May, gross domestic product rose 0.4% in June.

Composite Index



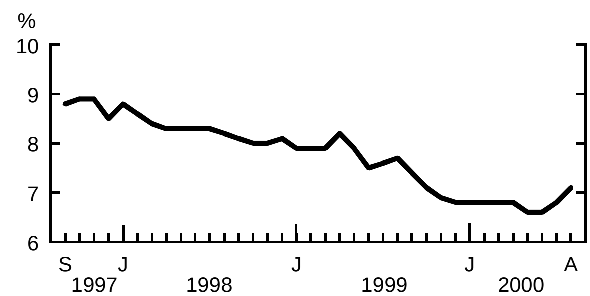
The leading indicator grew by 0.4% in July, the same rate as in june; 6 of 10 components posted gains.

Consumer Price Index



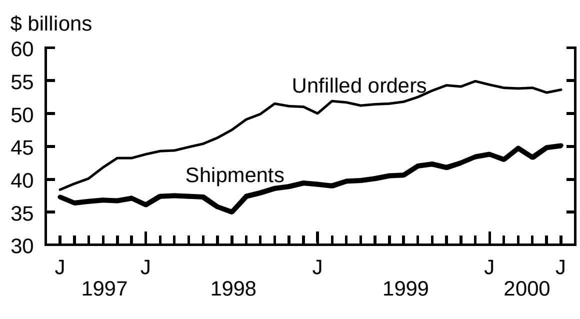
Consumer prices for goods and services were 3.0% higher in July 2000 than they were a year earlier. Excluding food and energy, prices rose 1.5%.

Unemployment rate



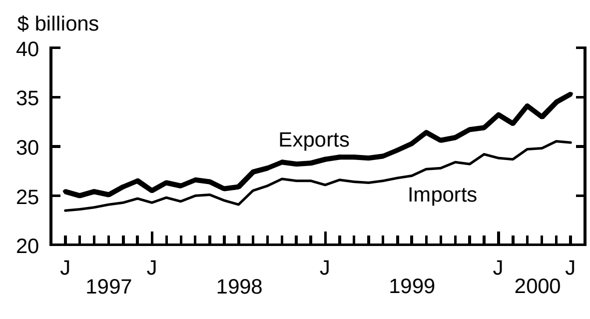
In August, a sharp increase in the number of people in the labour force pushed the unemployment rate up 0.3 percentage points to 7.1%.

Manufacturing



Manufacturers' shipments rose 0.7% in June to $45.1 billion. The backlog of unfilled orders increased 0.6% to $53.6 billion.

Merchandise trade



In June, the value of merchandise exports advanced 2.3% from May to $35.3 billion. Imports edged down 0.4% to $30.4 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)	June	783.3	0.4%	4.7%
Composite Index (1992=100)	July	163.8	0.4%	8.0%
Operating profits of enterprises ($ billion)	Q2 2000	51.9	1.7%	21.6%
Capacity utilization (%)	Q2 2000*	87.9	0.4†	4.1†
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail trade ($ billion)	June	22.9	0.8%	6.3%
Department store sales ($ billions)	July	1.58	2.6%	1.9%
New motor vehicle sales (thousand of units)	June	133.9	3.6%	7.5%
Wholesale trade ($ billion)	June	32.2	0.3%	8.4%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	August*	14.90	0.2%	2.4%
Unemployment rate (%)	August*	7.1	0.3†	-0.6†
Participation rate (%)	August*	65.9	0.3†	0.3†
Average weekly earnings ($)	June	626.29	0.1%	2.7%
Help-wanted Index (1996=100)	August	170	-0.6%	5.6%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise exports ($ billion)	June	35.3	2.3%	19.5%
Merchandise imports ($ billion)	June	30.4	-0.4%	13.3%
Merchandise trade balance (all figures in $ billion)	June	5.0	0.9	2.2
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments ($ billion)	June	45.1	0.7%	11.4%
New orders ($ billion)	June	45.5	3.0%	12.2%
Unfilled orders ($ billion)	June	53.6	0.6%	4.1%
Inventory/shipments ratio	June	1.30	-0.01	0.01
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1992=100)	July	114.1	0.4%	3.0%
Industrial Product Price Index (1992=100)	July	127.7	0.2%	4.2%
Raw Materials Price Index (1992=100)	July	141.4	-2.4%	19.9%
New Housing Price Index (1992=100)	July*	103.2	0.2%	2.4%

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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Subject area/Title of product	Period	Catalogue number	Price ($) (issue/subscription)
AGRICULTURE			
Field crop reporting series, vol. 79, no. 6: Stocks of Canadian grain	July 31, 2000	22-002-XIB	11/66
Field crop reporting series, vol. 79, no. 6: Stocks of Canadian grain	July 31, 2000	22-002-XPB	15/88
Livestock statistics update, 2000-002		23-603-UPE	45/149
Production of eggs	July 2000	23-003-XPB	110
DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES			
Wholesaling and retailing in Canada	1997	63-236-XIB	35
HEALTH STATISTICS			
Occupational surveillance in Canada: Cause-specific mortality among workers	1965 to 1991	84-546-XCB	500
HOUSING, FAMILY AND SOCIAL STATISTICS			
Canadian social trends	Autumn 2000	11-008-XIE	8/27
Canadian social trends	Autumn 2000	11-008-XPE	11/36
INCOME STATISTICS			
Spending patterns in Canada	1998	62-202-XIE	34
Spending patterns in Canada	1998	62-202-XPE	45
INDUSTRY MEASURES AND ANALYSIS			
Gross domestic product by industry	June 2000	15-001-XIE	11/110
Industrial monitor on CD-ROM	September 2000	15F0015XCB	995
INVESTMENT AND CAPITAL STOCK			
Building permits	July 2000	64-001-XIB	19/186
LABOUR STATISTICS			
Labour force information, week ending August 19, 2000	August 2000	71-001-PIB	8/78
Labour force information, week ending August 19, 2000	August 2000	71-001-PPB	11/103
LABOUR AND HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS ANALYSIS			
Labour market and income data guide	2000	75F0010XIE	no charge
MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION AND ENERGY			
Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins	July 2000	46-002-XIB	5/47
Oils and fats	July 2000	32-006-XIB	5/47
Production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing	July 2000	41-011-XIB	5/47
Supply and disposition of crude oil and natural gas	May 2000	26-006-XPB	19/186
PRICES			
Industry price indexes	June 2000	62-011-XPB	22/217
SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND ELECTRONIC INFORMATION			
Broadcasting and telecommunications, vol. 30, no. 2: Private radio broadcasters	1999	56-001-XIB	10/32
Science statistics, vol. 24, no. 3: Industrial research and development	1996 to 2000	88-001-XIB	6/59

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