



Infommat

A Weekly Review

Friday, October 4, 2002

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◆ **Dramatic jump in homicides by spouses**

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GDP growth boosted by manufacturing

The economy expanded a healthy 0.4% in July, following a 0.1% increase in gross domestic product (GDP) in June. Industrial production rose 1.5% in July, the result of solid gains in the manufacturing sector.

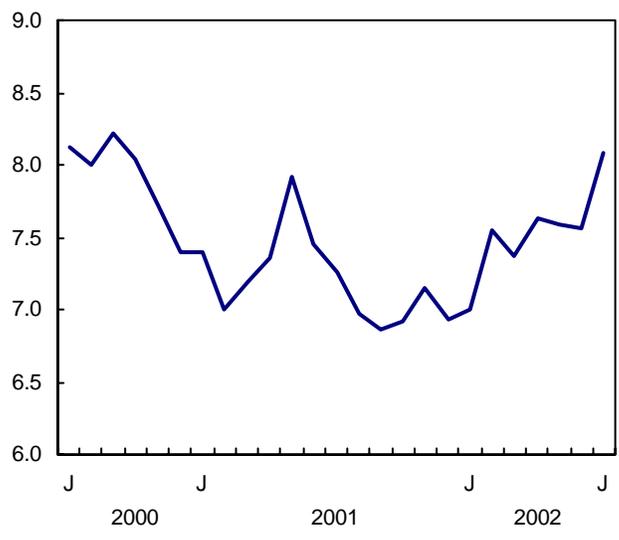
After a weak June, manufacturing rebounded led by the transportation sector. Canadians' appetite for new cars paused in July but was replaced by rising demand from the United States. The introduction of new car models and additional production capacity brought about higher production levels. New emission regulations in the United States and the resolution of a strike boosted production of heavy trucks.

Canadian exports of cars hit their highest level since January 2000, as U.S. auto sales surged in July, stimulated by low interest rates and price incentives. On the other hand, sales at Canadian car

(continued on page 2)

Car and truck production

GDP \$ billions chained 1997



GDP growth boosted... (continued from page 1)

dealerships declined and were the largest contributor to the contraction in retail trade.

Increased activity in sawmills, particularly in British Columbia, accounted for most of the strength in wood product manufacturing. Exports of lumber regained some strength after the sharp drop in June, but remained 10.2% below July 2001 levels.

The pulp and paper industry also rebounded in July, encouraged by higher pulp prices. Exports for pulp and paper were at their highest levels in about a year, as manufacturers ramped up production. In the second quarter, the capacity utilization rate in paper manufacturing reached 90.1%, the highest level in just over a year.

Robust demand for new housing continued to boost construction and its feeder industries in manufacturing. The value of building permits hit an all-time high in July, surpassing the record set in the late 1980s. An increase in residential loans helped the finance industry expand for the seventh consecutive month.

The continuing weakness in the information and communications technology (ICT) manufacturing industry dragged

down the entire ICT sector. Output for ICT manufacturing reached its lowest level since November 2001.

The heat wave in eastern Canada and northeastern United States pushed up electricity demand. Electricity generation and transmission reached its highest level since December 2000.

Output in the agriculture, forestry and fishing industry dropped significantly in July. Crop production fell to its lowest level in years, because of the severest drought in the western provinces in 40 years.

A shortage of wheat, rapeseed and other cereals caused exports to fall sharply in July. Reduced inventories in July pushed up prices of wheat and rapeseed to levels not seen in three years.

*The July 2002 issue of **Gross domestic product by industry** (Internet: 15-001-XIE, \$11/\$110) will be available soon. For general information, contact Yolande Chantigny (1-800-887-4623; imad@statcan.ca). For analytical information, contact Jo Ann MacMillan (613-951-7248; joann.macmillan@statcan.ca), Industry Measures and Analysis Division. (See also "Current trends" on page 7.)*

Comparable health indicators

Comparable health indicators for Canada, the provinces and the territories are now available through the websites of Statistics Canada and the Canadian Institute for Health Information.

These indicators were identified in response to the First Ministers' communiqué on health issued in September 2000. During the past two years, health ministries from the provinces, the territories and the federal government have been working to select and to report on comparable indicators that address health status, outcomes of health services and quality of health services.

The communiqué on health identified 14 areas for comparable indicator reporting: life expectancy, infant mortality, low birth rate, self-reported health, change in life expectancy, improved quality of life, reduced burden of disease, illness and injury, waiting times for key diagnostic and treatment services, patient satisfaction, hospital re-admission for selected conditions, access to first-contact health services, home and community care services 24 hours a day and seven days a week, public health surveillance and protection, and health promotion and disease prevention.

***Comparable health indicators** (82-401-XIE) is available on Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca). From the Our products and services page, choose Free publications, then Health. For more information, contact Brenda Wannell (613-951-8554; brenda.wannell@statcan.ca), Health Statistics Division.*

Canada's fertility rate at record low

Canada's fertility rate fell to a record low in 2000 in the wake of the tenth straight annual decline in the number of births.

A total of 327,882 babies were born in 2000, the lowest number since 1946. This was down 2.8% from 337,249 in 1999. The number of live births fell in all provinces and territories except the Northwest Territories, where it rose 2.1%.

Combined with a larger population, this left the fertility rate – an estimate of the average number of children women aged 15 to 49 will have in their lifetime – at a record low of 1.49.

This is far lower than the “replacement rate” of 2.1 children for every woman. Fertility rates fell for women in all age groups under 35.

The largest annual decrease in the fertility rate occurred among female teenagers. The fertility rate fell from 18.9 births for every 1,000 women aged 15 to 19 in 1999 to a new low of 17.3.

Although fertility rates among women aged 35 and older increased from 1999 to 2000, the levels were not large enough to offset the decreases in fertility rates among younger women.

For general information, contact Client Custom Services (613-951-1746; hd-ds@statcan.ca). For analytical information, contact Patricia Tully (613-951-1759; patricia.tully@statcan.ca), Health Statistics Division.

Canadians weren't in moving mode last year

More Canadians were generally content to stay put last year. Slightly more than 1.22 million individuals moved between July 1, 2000 and June 30, 2001, down from 1.29 million in 1999/2000.

Of these, an estimated 269,000 people changed provinces or territories and about 887,000 moved from one census division to another within their province or territory.

These data cover individuals who relocated within their own province, those who moved from one province to another, and those who moved into or out of the country.

Migration from one province to another was the lowest it has been since 1992/93, while migration within any given province was second lowest during this period.

Among census divisions, for the third year in a row, the Regional Municipality of York, north of Toronto, had the largest positive net migration relative to its population. In 2000/01, York gained 51 people from migration for every 1,000 living there. The Regional Municipality of Peel, west of Toronto, posted the second largest net migration.

Division No. 16 in northeast Alberta experienced a net migration of 33 people per 1,000 inhabitants. Among others, this census division includes the municipality of Fort McMurray, which is experiencing a high level of activity as a result of large investments in oilsands development.

Among census metropolitan areas, Toronto recorded the highest net inflow of people (106,185).

The positive net migration of individuals in the three largest census metropolitan areas – Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver – was the result of the arrival of international migrants. Without these migrants, there would be more people leaving these three metropolitan areas than arriving.

International immigrants represented two-thirds of the people who moved into Toronto. An additional 21% arrived from elsewhere in the province, and 13% came from other provinces.

Most people (65%) who left Toronto moved to another region within Ontario. An additional 19% moved to another province, primarily British Columbia, Quebec and Alberta. About 16% moved outside the country.

These migration data were derived by comparing addresses supplied on personal income tax returns filed in the spring of 2000 and 2001. They were adjusted to the July total population estimates.

As of July 1, 2002, Canada's population reached an estimated 31,414,000, up 303,400 from July 1, 2001. The 1.0% population growth rate was similar to that of the previous year, when the population grew by 319,700.

For more information, contact Client Services (1-866-652-8443; 613-951-9720; saadinfo@statcan.ca), Small Area and Administrative Data Division.

Life expectancy gap narrows between rich and poor

The gap in life expectancy at birth between the poorest and richest neighbourhoods in Canada's urban areas narrowed substantially from 1971 to 1996, according to a new study that examines the relationship between income and mortality.

In 1971, the disparity in life expectancy between the 20% of people in urban neighbourhoods with the lowest incomes and the 20% in those with the highest incomes was more than six years for men, and nearly three years for women.

During the next quarter-century, life expectancy improved substantially for all income levels. However, the gains were larger for those in the lowest income neighbourhoods than for those in the highest.

Consequently, by 1996, the gap in life expectancy between the lowest and highest income neighbourhoods was down to five years for men, and considerably less than two years for women.

For men in the poorest neighbourhoods, life expectancy at birth rose 6.0 years from 1971 to 1996, compared with 4.7 years for men in the richest neighbourhoods. For women in the poorest neighbourhoods, life expectancy at birth increased 3.8 years in the same time period, compared with only 2.6 years for those in the richest neighbourhoods.

The study also found similar improvements in levels of infant mortality and in the probability of survival to age 75.

With respect to infant deaths, the gap between the richest and poorest neighbourhoods was 9.8 deaths for every 1,000 live births in 1971. By 1996, the gap had declined to only 2.4 deaths.

In 1996, the infant mortality rate in Canada's poorest neighbourhoods was considerably lower than the national rate for the United States. However, the rate in Canada's richest neighbourhoods was no better than Sweden's national rate.

Just over half (53%) of men in the poorest neighbourhood income group were expected to survive to the age of 75, compared with 69% of men in the richest group. Among women, 73% in the poorest group were expected to survive to 75, as opposed to 80% in the richest.

In 1971, young people aged 14 and under accounted for 39% of premature deaths. By 1996, mortality at younger ages had declined to such an extent that this age group accounted for only 12% of those excess deaths.

For most causes of death, socio-economic disparities in mortality diminished over time. These causes included ischemic heart disease, most injuries, cirrhosis of the liver and perinatal conditions.

Some causes of death showed clearly widening disparities: lung cancer among women, mental disorders and diabetes for both sexes. Mortality rates for lung cancer increased rapidly for women in all income groups, and the gap between rich and poor widened, reflecting previous increases in rates of smoking among women. From 1986 on, the rates in the poorest neighbourhoods were much higher for these causes of death than for those in other income groups.

*The study **Trends in mortality by neighbourhood income in urban Canada, 1971 to 1996** (82-003-SIE) is now available on Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca). For more information, contact Russell Wilkins (613-951-5305; wilkrus@statcan.ca) or Jean-Marie Berthelot (613-951-3760; berthel@statcan.ca), Health Analysis and Measurement Group.*

Industrial prices rise as dollar weakens

Prices that manufacturers received for their goods at the plant gate rose in August for the first time in almost a year, primarily the result of price increases for motor vehicles and other transport equipment. The weaker Canadian dollar had a major impact.

Manufacturers' prices, as measured by the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI), increased 0.4% in August from August 2001. This was the first year-over-year gain in 10 months.

Higher prices of chemicals and chemical products, fruit, vegetable and feed products, and electrical and communication products also contributed to the increase. Lower prices for lumber products, petroleum and coal products, and meat, fish and dairy products partly offset these advances.

The increase was due largely to the impact of the exchange rate. From July to August, the value of the US dollar strengthened against the Canadian dollar, pushing up prices of commodities that are quoted in US dollars. Excluding the exchange rate effect, the IPPI would have decreased 0.2%.

On a month-to-month basis, industrial prices were up 0.6% in August, after a slight gain of 0.2% in July. Higher prices for motor vehicles, petroleum products and pulp and paper products were the major contributors to this rise. They were partly offset by lower prices for primary metal products and meat, fish and dairy products.

Manufacturers paid 1.5% more for their raw materials than they did in August 2001, following an increase of 0.2% in July. Higher prices for vegetable products, mineral fuels, wood products and ferrous materials were responsible for this annual rise in the Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI). If mineral fuels had been excluded, the RMPI would have grown 1.6%.

On a monthly basis, raw materials prices were up 1.1% from July. Higher prices for mineral fuels, vegetable products and

Industrial product and raw materials price indexes, August 2002

	Index (1997=100)	% change, previous month	% change, previous year
Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI)	107.6	0.6	0.4
IPPI excluding petroleum and coal products	106.5	0.5	0.6
Intermediate goods	104.4	0.5	-0.2
Finished goods	112.5	0.7	1.3
Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI)	115.8	1.1	1.5
RMPI excluding mineral fuels	92.6	-0.4	1.6
Mineral fuels (crude oil)	166.1	3.3	1.3
Vegetable products	102.9	4.1	19.9
Animals and animal products	100.1	-1.7	-8.1
Wood	85.2	1.1	5.8
Ferrous materials	94.4	0.6	7.0
Non-ferrous metals	78.1	-4.6	0.3
Non-metallic minerals	109.7	0.0	0.3

wood products were the major contributors to this gain. They were partly offset by lower prices for non-ferrous metals and animal products.

In the RMPI, crude oil prices were 4.3% higher in August than in July, mainly because of higher demand and anticipation of decreased supply. This rise was also reflected in the IPPI, as petroleum and coal product prices were up 2.5% from July.

In the IPPI, lumber and other wood product prices were up a slight 0.1% in August from July, after a 0.5% increase in July. Higher prices for particleboard were offset by lower prices for softwood lumber. On an annual basis, lumber and other wood products were down 7.5%.

For more information, contact Client Services (613-951-9606; infounit@statcan.ca) or Danielle Gouin (613-951-3375; danielle.gouin@statcan.ca), Prices Division.

Dramatic jump in homicides by spouses

Spousal homicides increased in 2001 for the first time in six years, even though the national homicide rate remained stable. Eighty-six such homicides were reported last year, up from 68 in 2000, the first increase since 1995.

The number of men accused of killing their current wife or ex-wife rose to 69 in 2001 from 52 in 2000, with virtually all of this increase occurring in Ontario. Sixteen women, the same number as in 2000, were accused of killing their husbands. One homicide was committed by a same-sex spouse.

Police reported a total of 554 homicides in 2001, eight more than in 2000. The national homicide rate, which has generally been declining since the mid-1970s, was 1.78 homicides for every 100,000 individuals, similar to levels during the late 1960s.

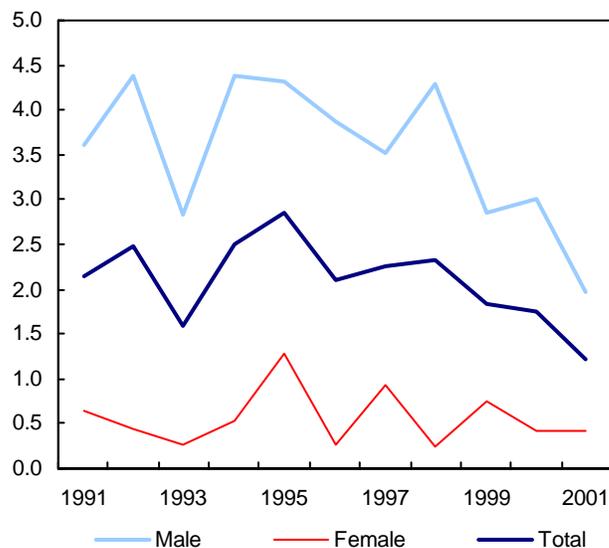
In 2001, about 45% of all solved homicides were committed by an acquaintance, and 43% by a family member. The remaining 13% of victims were killed by a stranger, a proportion that has remained relatively constant over the past decade.

In total, 52% of all female victims and 8% of all male victims in 2001 were killed by an individual with whom they had an intimate relationship at one time or another, either through marriage or dating.

There were 30 young people accused of committing homicide in 2001. This was 13 fewer than in 2000, and considerably less than the annual average of 52 during the previous decade. The

Youth homicide

Rate per 100,000 youth 12 to 17 years



decline was largely the result of a decrease in the number of male youths accused of homicide. Despite this, males still accounted for 83% of homicides committed by youths, similar to the proportion of 87% among adults.

Two-thirds of the 485 people accused of homicide had a criminal record, consistent with previous years. In addition, 51% of the 505 homicide victims over the age of 12 also had a criminal record.

Police reported 62 victims of gang-related slayings, down from 72 in 2000. However, gang-related homicides have almost tripled since the early 1990s.

Among the provinces, Manitoba recorded the highest homicide rate (2.96) for the second year in a row, followed by Saskatchewan (2.66). Newfoundland and Labrador reported the lowest rate for the third consecutive year, followed by Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. Nova Scotia's rate was its lowest since 1963, and the rate in British Columbia was the lowest since 1964.

Among Canada's nine largest metropolitan areas, Winnipeg reported the highest homicide rate at 2.77 victims for every 100,000 population while Ottawa reported the lowest rate (0.36), its lowest since 1984.

Juristat: Homicide in Canada, 2001, Vol. 22, no. 7 (Internet: 85-002-XIE, \$8/\$70; paper: 85-002-XPE, \$10/\$93) is now available. For more information, contact Information and Client Services (1-800-387-2231; 613-951-9023), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

Homicides by province or territory, 2001

	2001		2000 ^r		Average 1991 to 2000	
	Number	Rate ¹	Number	Rate ¹	Number	Rate ¹
Canada	554	1.78	546	1.77	616	2.10
Newfoundland and Labrador	1	0.19	6	1.12	6	1.01
Prince Edward Island	2	1.44	3	2.17	1	0.89
Nova Scotia	9	0.95	15	1.59	19	2.06
New Brunswick	8	1.06	10	1.32	11	1.45
Quebec	140	1.89	150	2.03	148	2.04
Ontario	170	1.43	156	1.34	189	1.72
Manitoba	34	2.96	30	2.62	32	2.86
Saskatchewan	27	2.66	26	2.54	26	2.53
Alberta	70	2.28	59	1.96	65	2.35
British Columbia	85	2.08	85	2.09	113	3.01
Yukon	1	3.35	2	6.54	2	5.19
Northwest Territories	4	9.79	1	2.44	4	8.76
Nunavut	3	10.65	3	10.94

... Figures not appropriate or not applicable.

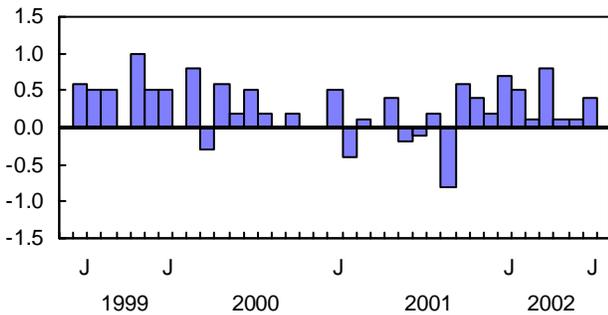
^r Revised figures.

¹ Rates are calculated per 100,000 population.

Current trends

Gross domestic product

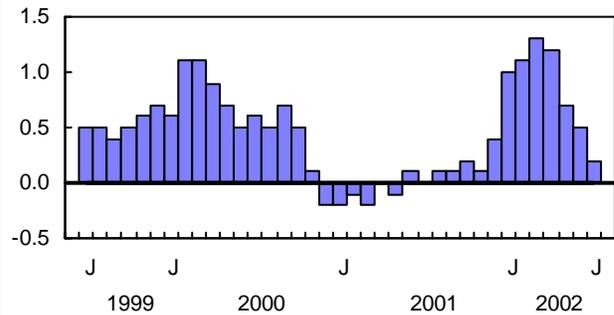
% change, previous month



Total economic activity rose 0.4% in July, following a 0.1% increase in June.

Composite Index

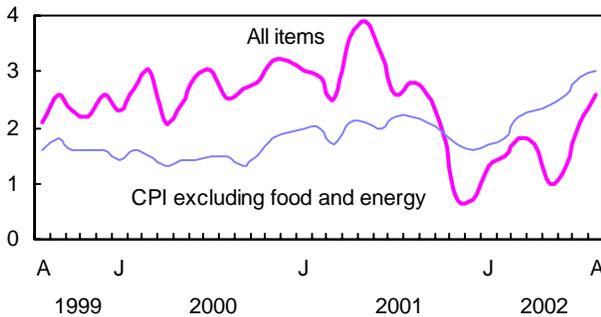
% change, previous month



The leading indicator gained 0.2% in July. The rise would have matched June's had the stock market not tumbled again.

Consumer Price Index

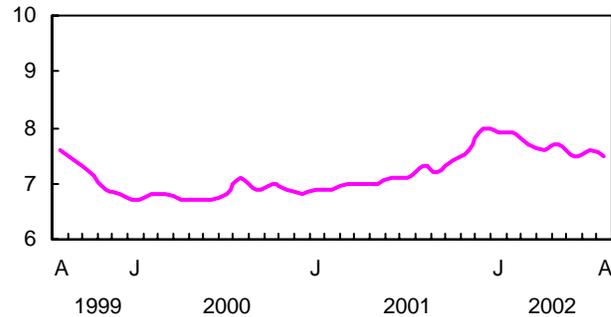
% change, previous year



Consumer prices for goods and services were 2.6% higher in August than they were a year earlier. Excluding food and energy, prices rose 3.0%.

Unemployment rate

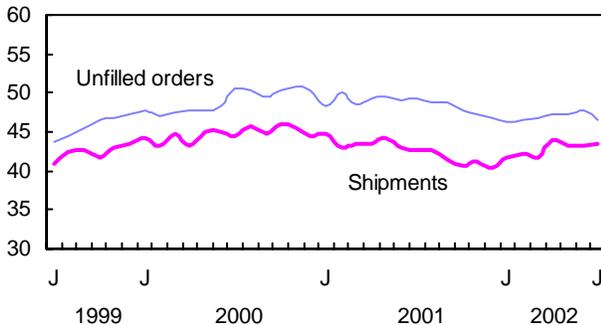
%



In August, the unemployment rate edged down 0.1 percentage points to 7.5%.

Manufacturing

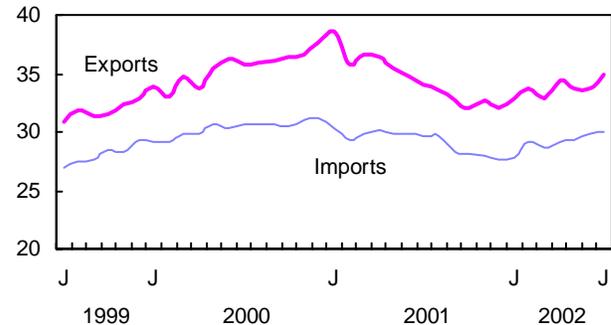
\$ billions



Manufacturers' shipments rose 1.0% in July to \$43.6 billion. The backlog of unfilled orders declined 0.9% to \$46.6 billion.

Merchandise trade

\$ billions



In July, the value of merchandise exports jumped 3.4% to \$34.9 billion. Imports rose 0.2% to \$30.0 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 (\$ billions, 1997) ¹	July*	977.9	0.4%	3.4%
Composite Index (1992=100)	August	178.4	0.2%	7.3%
Operating profits of enterprises (\$ billions)	Q2 2002	38.8	10.7%	-0.2%
Capacity utilization rate (%) ²	Q2 2002	83.2	1.3†	-0.1†
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail trade (\$ billions)	July	25.6	-0.3%	6.5%
New motor vehicle sales (thousands of units)	July	139.4	-1.9%	5.4%
Wholesale trade (\$ billions)	July	34.7	0.7%	4.9%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	August	15.5	0.4%	2.7%
Unemployment rate (%)	August	7.5	-0.1†	0.2†
Participation rate (%)	August	67.0	0.2†	1.1†
Average weekly earnings (\$)	July	677.97	0.3%	1.8%
Help-wanted Index (1996=100)	September*	124.2	-2.1%	-10.4%
Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries (in thousands)	July	573.2	3.9%	3.8%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise exports (\$ billions)	July	34.9	3.4%	2.5%
Merchandise imports (\$ billions)	July	30.0	0.2%	1.1%
Merchandise trade balance (all figures in \$ billions)	July	4.9	1.1	0.5
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments (\$ billions)	July	43.6	1.0%	2.3%
New orders (\$ billions)	July	43.2	-0.5%	0.9%
Unfilled orders (\$ billions)	July	46.6	-0.9%	-5.5%
Inventory/shipments ratio	July	1.42	-0.01	-0.09
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1992=100)	August	120.1	0.4%	2.6%
Industrial Product Price Index (1997=100)	August*	107.6	0.6%	0.4%
Raw Materials Price Index (1997=100)	August*	115.8	1.1%	1.5%
New Housing Price Index (1992=100)	July	110.5	0.2%	4.0%

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

* new this week

† percentage point

¹ 1997 replaces 1992 as the base year used in determining prices for gross domestic product by industry. Also, valuation has been changed from factor cost to basic prices.

² Calculation of the rates of capacity use is now based on the 1997 North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS), which has replaced the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification.

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A weekly review

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Products released from September 26 to October 2, 2002

SUBJECT AREA Title of product	Period	Catalogue number	Price (\$) (issue/subscription)
AGRICULTURE			
Alternative livestock on Canadian farms	2001	23-502-XIE	free
Cereals and oilseeds review	July 2002	22-007-XIB	11/112
Cereals and oilseeds review	July 2002	22-007-XPB	15/149
Farm product price index	July 2002	21-007-XIB	free
Stocks of frozen and chilled meat products	September 2002	23-009-XIE	free
Vista on the agri-food industry and the farm community	September 2002	21-004-XIE	free
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL FLOWS			
Canada's balance of international payments	Q2 2002	67-001-XIB	29/93
Canada's balance of international payments	Q2 2002	67-001-XPB	38/124
Canada's international transactions in securities	July 2002	67-002-XIB	14/132
Canada's international transactions in securities	July 2002	67-002-XPB	18/176
CANADIAN CENTRE FOR JUSTICE STATISTICS			
Organized crime in Canada	2001/02	85-556-XIE	free
HEALTH STATISTICS			
Comparable health indicators		82-401-XIE	free
Trends in mortality by neighbourhood income in urban Canada	1971 to 1996	82-003-SIE	free
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS			
National tourism indicators, quarterly estimates	Q2 2002	13-009-XIB	free
National tourism indicators, quarterly estimates	Q2 2002	13-009-XPB	free
INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION AND FINANCE			
Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises	Q2 2002	61-008-XIE	26/86
LABOUR AND HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS ANALYSIS			
Perspectives on labour and income	September 2002	75-001-XIE	5/48
MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION AND ENERGY			
Electric power statistics	July 2002	57-001-XIB	9/85
Sawmills and planing mills	July 2002	35-003-XIB	9/86
Shipments of office furniture products	June 2002	35-006-XIB	11/21
SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND ELECTRONIC INFORMATION			
Connectedness series: Unveiling the digital divide		56F0004MIE2002007	free
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