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Infomat

A Weekly Review

Friday, November 28, 1997

OVERVIEW

- **Trade balance hits low**

  The growth in imports outpaced that in exports from January through September, causing the merchandise trade balance to fall to its lowest level since December 1993.

- **Foreign investment up again**

  Foreign investors continued their buying spree of Canadian securities in September, while Canadian residents bought a record amount of foreign bonds.

- **Growth of Composite Index eases**

  The Composite Index rose in October, but at a rate below the monthly average registered so far in 1997. Much of the slowdown was caused by the weakness in stock market prices.

- **Wholesalers' good performance continues**

  Wholesale sales rose in September, more than offsetting August's decline. The wholesaling industry has performed extremely well so far this year.

- **Slight rise in retail sales**

  Strong sales by motor and recreational vehicle dealers helped retail sales advance marginally in September.

- **Corporate profits increase**

  Corporate operating profits increased in the third quarter, following the upward trend that began in 1993.

- **Investment income declines**

  Although there was a small increase in the number of investment income recipients in 1996, total investment income was down compared with 1995.

Trade balance hits low

Between August and September, exports rose 0.2% to reach just over $25 billion. Imports reached a record $24.2 billion, up 1.6% over August. From January through September, exports rose 6.2%, while imports climbed 16.0%. This disparity pushed the merchandise trade balance down to $869 million—its lowest level since December 1993.

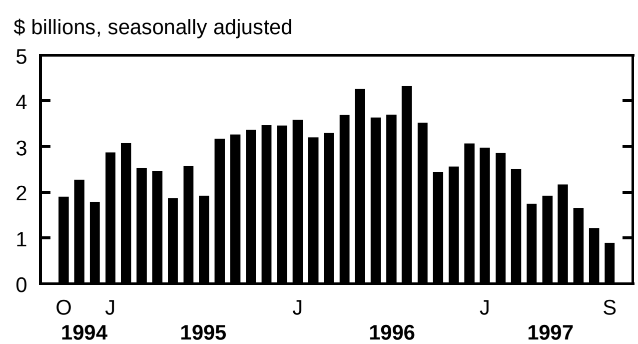
After posting a slight decrease in August, machinery and equipment exports advanced 3.3% in September. This was mainly attributable to the aircraft and other transportation equipment sector and the industrial and agricultural machinery sector. Exports of agricultural and fishing products rose 5.0%, as both the fish and fish products (+25.0%) and the meat and meat products (+12.9%) sectors recorded strong increases.

The industrial goods sector showed a modest gain in September (+0.5%). Exports of energy products fell 4.8%: crude petroleum showed the greatest drop, while natural gas posted an increase. Forestry product exports remained fairly stable during the month. Consumer goods exports fell 16.5%, and returned to their usual level after reaching a record in August. Exports of automotive products declined for the second month in a row, down 3.2% compared with August.

On the imports side, energy and machinery and equipment imports were the main contributors to the growth. Imports of energy products jumped 32.5% in September. Solid gains by the crude petroleum sector (+40.1%) and the petroleum and coal

(continued on page 2)

Trade balance



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Canada

... Trade balance hits low

products sector (+16.3%) were behind this increase. Machinery and equipment exports registered a modest gain of 1.2%, mainly due to aircraft, aircraft engines and parts imports (+14.4%). However, a drop in imports of office machines and equipment, especially computers, partially offset this resurgence.

Imports of automotive products fell for the second consecutive month, declining 2.1% in September. The weakness in motor vehicle parts imports (– 6.2%) contributed most to the decline, offsetting a strong increase in truck imports (+17.1%). Industrial goods imports edged down 1.1%, mainly due to a decrease in chemicals and plastics.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3611–3616, 3618–3629, 3651, 3685–3713, 3718–3720 and 3887–3913.

Note to readers

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

*The September 1997 issue of **Canadian international merchandise trade** (65-001-XPB, $19/$188) is now available. Current account data are available on a quarterly basis in **Canada's balance of international payments** (67-001-XPB, $38/$124). For further information, contact Jocelyne Elibani (613-951-9647 or 1 800 294-5583), International Trade Division. (See also "Current trends" on page 7.)*

Foreign investment up again

In September, foreign investors continued their buying spree of Canadian securities, acquiring a further $4.1 billion, largely bonds. Foreign buying was evenly split among federal, provincial and corporate issues.

Non-residents resumed their selling on the Canadian money market in September. Since April 1997, non-residents have reduced their holdings of Canadian money market paper by $4.2 billion, made up of sales of $5.9 billion of federal treasury bills and purchases of $1.7 billion of provincial and corporate paper. The differential on short-term federal paper continues to favour, by over 200 basis points, investment in U.S. paper.

Foreign buying of Canadian stocks reached $0.3 billion, bringing the foreign investment since May 1997 to $4.9 billion. U.S. residents bought $1.2 billion of Canadian stock in September, while European investors sold $0.8 billion.

Canadian residents bought a record $2.1 billion of mainly U.S. treasury bonds in September. U.S. long-term federal government bond yields were marginally higher than their Canadian counterparts. Canadian residents were small sellers of foreign stocks in September ($0.4 billion sales of U.S. stocks). They also purchased $0.3 billion of overseas stocks.

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

*The September 1997 issue of **Canada's international transactions in securities** (67-002-XPB, $18/$176) will be available shortly. For further information, contact Don Granger (613-951-1864), Balance of Payments Division.*

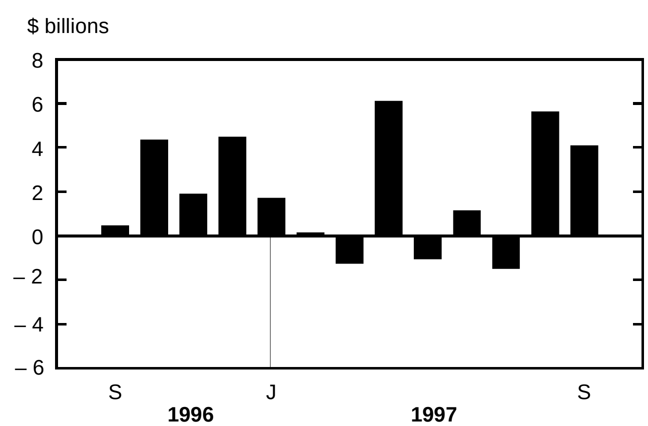
Note to readers

***Interest rates:** In September, the differential on Canadian and U.S. short-term rates continued to favour investment in U.S. paper by some 220 basis points. During the month, U.S. and Canadian long-term federal government bond yields were virtually unchanged from August with the differential remaining marginally in favour of investment in the United States.*

***Stock prices:** Canadian stock prices, as measured by the TSE 300 Index, resumed their upward trend, climbing 6.5% in September after declining 3.9% in August. U.S. stock prices, as measured by Standard and Poor's Composite 500 Index, likewise rose in September (+5.3%), following a 5.7% loss in August.*

***Canadian dollar:** The Canadian dollar closed September at US72.41 cents, a third of a cent higher than August.*

Foreign investment in Canadian bonds



Growth of Composite Index eases

The Composite Index rose by 0.6% in October, below the monthly average of 0.8% registered so far in 1997. A large part of the slowdown was caused by the weakness in stock market prices. As in recent months, business investment remained the main engine of growth.

Investment demand by firms powered the longest and strongest gain in new orders in over two years. The average workweek in manufacturing continued to lengthen. Investment spending also supported steady growth in employment in business services. Manufacturing and business services have contributed most of the recent gain in overall employment.

The growth of the U.S. leading index remained modest, as has Canada's recent export performance. In Canada, household spending remained mixed. Sales of durable goods slowed. However, after the decrease in mortgage rates in September, sales of existing housing picked up. Furniture and appliance sales also increased.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 191.

For further information, the November 1997 issue of ***Canadian economic observer*** *(11-010-XPB, $23/$227) is now available, or contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Economic Analysis Group. (See also "Current trends" on page 7.)*

Wholesalers' good performance continues

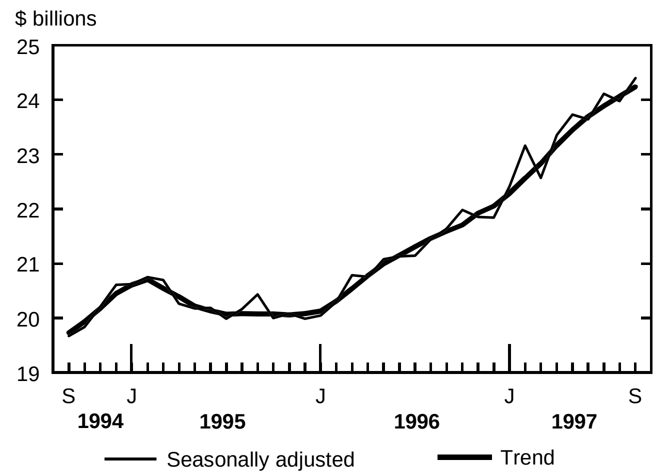
Total sales by wholesalers rose 1.8% to $24.4 billion in September, more than offsetting August's decline. Most trade groups showed moderate to strong increases in sales, led by computers and electronic equipment and beverage, drug and tobacco products. In the first nine months of 1997, total wholesale sales increased 12.2% compared with the same period in 1996.

Sales of computers and electronic equipment were up 4.5% in September. Most of this increase can be attributed to higher computer sales, which account for about 60% of the trade group. For the fourth consecutive month, wholesalers of beverage, drug and tobacco products reported increasing sales (+4.5%).

Wholesalers increased inventories by 1.2% to $34.8 billion. With the exception of a 0.2% decline in March, inventories have been continuously increasing since August 1996. The bulk of September's increase came from a 6.5% rise in inventories of motor vehicles and parts, as wholesalers stocked up in anticipation of a good year in 1998. In the first nine months of 1997, wholesale sales of motor vehicles and parts increased 17.5% over the same period in 1996.

The inventories-to-sales ratio declined from 1.44 in August to 1.43 in September. On a trade group basis, the inventories-to-sales ratio ranged from 0.64 for food products to 2.47 for farm machinery.

Wholesale sales



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

The September 1997 issue of ***Wholesale trade*** *(63-008-XPB, $19/$186) will be available shortly. For further information, contact Paul Gratton (613-951-3541) or Ruth Neveu (613-951-7375), Distributive Trades Division.*

Slight rise in retail sales

Strong sales by motor and recreational vehicle dealers helped retail sales advance 0.3% to $19.7 billion in September. The gain in the automotive sector (+1.3%), along with small improvements in general merchandise stores and clothing and drug stores, was enough to offset declining sales in the furniture and other retail categories.

Within the automotive sector, almost all of the improvement came from motor and recreational vehicle dealers (+1.6%). This advance followed a 2.1% decline in August. The marginal improvement in sales by general merchandise stores was led by a 0.5% increase in department store sales, which offset the 0.3% decline posted by other general merchandise stores. Clothing store sales advanced 0.2%, as sales of women's and men's clothing improved.

The "other retail" sector posted the largest decline (–1.8%). This sector includes a wide variety of merchants; for example, bookstores and florists, sporting goods, camera, liquor and pet stores. Although sales in this group decreased in September, they have been strong throughout 1997. Furniture stores recorded a significant drop in sales (–1.5%), while sales in food stores remained unchanged.

Nova Scotia (+4.3%) and Prince Edward Island (+3.5%) posted the largest increases in retail sales in the third quarter of 1997, while retreating sales in the automotive sector led to a smaller increase in Newfoundland (+1.1%) and a decline in New Brunswick (–1.2%). Consumers in Quebec eased up on their spending in the third quarter, while Ontario retailers enjoyed a strong broadly based expansion (+2.8%).

(continued on page 4)

... Slight rise in retail sales

Retail sales flattened out in Alberta (+1.5%), Manitoba (+1.1%) and Saskatchewan (+0.8%) in the third quarter, as all Prairie provinces suffered weaker sales in the automotive sector. Alberta has been leading retail sales across the country throughout most of 1997. In British Columbia, retail sales advanced 1.7% in the third quarter.

Initial estimates for October indicate an increase in the number of new motor vehicles sold. The number of employees in retail trade advanced 0.2% from September, but total employment fell 0.1%. The number of housing starts increased by 3.4% from the same period in 1996. Wholesale sales rose 1.8% in September.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2299, 2398–2417 and 2420.

The September 1997 issue of ***Retail trade*** *(63-005-XPB, $21/$206) will be available shortly. For further information, contact Louise Généreux (613-951-3549; Internet: logener2@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division.*

Retail and wholesale trade, September 1997[p]
Seasonally adjusted

	Retail sales		Wholesale sales	
	$ millions	% change, previous month	$ millions	% change, previous month
Canada	**19,670**	**0.3**	**24,399**	**1.8**
Newfoundland	308	– 0.3	194	– 0.5
Prince Edward Island	85	– 3.9	51	3.0
Nova Scotia	610	1.2	505	4.0
New Brunswick	464	1.5	312	1.5
Quebec	4,685	0.6	4,946	1.3
Ontario	7,118	– 0.7	10,991	1.9
Manitoba	699	0.8	956	1.9
Saskatchewan	665	2.0	887	– 0.4
Alberta	2,205	2.0	2,635	4.0
British Columbia	2,761	0.0	2,894	0.1
Yukon	26	3.0	13	11.4
Northwest Territories	44	2.1	17	32.4

[p] *Preliminary figures.*

Corporate profits increase

In the third quarter of 1997, corporate operating profits increased 2.7% (seasonally adjusted) from the previous quarter, to reach a high of $27.7 billion. This continued the upward trend that began in 1993.

Operating profits in the non-financial industries continued to expand, rising 0.7% in the third quarter. However, profit growth was moderated by declines in half of the 22 industry groups.

In the petroleum and natural gas sector, operating profits rebounded to $3.3 billion. Operating revenue in the motor vehicle, parts and accessories industry jumped to a record $50.4 billion (+7.5%), while operating profits climbed to an all-time high of $2.4 billion. In the wood and paper industry, profits reached $1.2 billion, while profits for non-ferrous metals producers fell to $0.6 billion. Operating profits in the consumer goods and services industry remained at historically strong levels in the third quarter.

Operating profits of the financial industries increased to $7.0 billion. Property and casualty insurers posted operating profits of $0.9 billion. Operating profits for life insurers continued upward for the third straight quarter, climbing 15.8% to $0.9 billion.

The annual return on shareholders' equity increased to 9.9% in the third quarter. Higher operating profits and interest and dividend revenue coupled with a decline in asset writedowns contributed to a 10.3% rise in after-tax profits. Increases in share capital and retained earnings elevated total shareholders' equity to $590.6 billion. The operating profit margin remained unchanged at 7.3% in the third quarter.

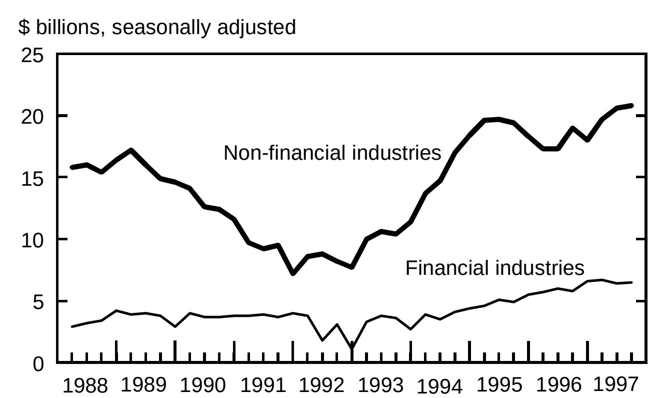
Available on CANSIM: matrices 3914–3971 and 3974–3981.

The third quarter 1997 issue of ***Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises*** *(61-008-XPB, $35/$114) will be available in December. For further information, contact Bill Potter for non-financial industries data (613-951-2662), and Robert Moreau for financial industries data (613-951-2512), Industrial Organization and Finance Division.*

Note to readers

The quarterly financial statistics cover the domestic activities of non-government corporations. Operating profits exclude expense deductions for income taxes, interest on borrowing and asset write-offs. Capital gains and investment income are excluded from the operating profits of non-financial industries, but are included in the operating profits of the financial industries.

Operating profits



Income statement
Seasonally adjusted

	Q3 1996	Q2 1997	Q3 1997	Q2 1997 to Q3 1997
	$ billions			% change
All industries				
Operating revenue	357.1	369.2	379.0	+ 2.6
Operating expenses	332.3	342.2	351.3	+ 2.6
Operating profits	24.8	27.0	27.7	+ 2.7
Net profits	11.7	13.2	14.6	+ 10.3

Investment income declines

In 1996, just under 8 million Canadians received a total of $28.4 billion in investment income. This represents a decrease of 1.2% compared with 1995, despite a small increase in the number of investment income recipients.

Overall, of the taxfilers who reported investment income, about 6 million were savers who received interest only: they received only 44%, or $12.6 billion, of the total investment income. The remaining 2 million were investors who received dividends.

The average investor had a total income of $49,355 in 1996 and received $9,649 in interest and dividends. The average saver had a total income of $28,930 and earned $2,082 in interest. The national median investment income was $500. Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan and British Columbia reported the highest provincial median, at $600.

Two-thirds of the investment income reported was earned by individuals aged 55 and over, although this group represented only 42% of the investment income recipients. Women represented 52% of the investment income recipients, and they comprised 48% of the investors and 54% of the savers. Women investors received 40% of their returns in the form of dividends compared with 58% for men.

For further information, contact Client Services (613-951-9720; fax: 613-951-4745; Internet: saadinfo@statcan.ca), Small Area and Administrative Data Division.

Median total income of savers and investors, 1996

	Taxfilers	Savers	Investors
		$	
Canada	**19,600**	**22,600**	**35,600**
Newfoundland	14,100	22,900	34,700
Prince Edward Island	16,800	21,100	30,100
Nova Scotia	16,900	22,100	33,500
New Brunswick	16,100	22,200	33,400
Quebec	18,100	22,000	36,900
Ontario	21,500	24,100	36,700
Manitoba	17,900	20,300	31,100
Saskatchewan	17,600	19,100	29,800
Alberta	20,200	21,400	35,300
British Columbia	20,400	22,100	34,700
Yukon	25,400	35,300	45,800
Northwest Territories	23,200	49,300	61,700

Note to readers

A saver is a taxfiler who reported interest income but no dividend income from Canadian corporations. Interest income refers to interest earned from Canadian sources as well as interest and dividend income from foreign sources. Canada Savings Bonds, treasury bills, investment certificates and bank accounts are all examples of Canadian sources of interest income.

An investor is a taxfiler who reported dividend income received from taxable Canadian corporations. These persons may also have received interest income.

Investment income refers to the interest and dividend income received by savers and/or investors from investments in non-tax-sheltered vehicles. Income earned from investments held under the terms of registered retirement savings plans or registered retirement income funds, for example, are excluded.

New from Statistics Canada

Databank on charitable donors
1996

The 1996 edition of the databank on charitable donors is now available. Produced annually, these data are a unique source of information on small areas and are ideal for supporting target marketing and policy decisions. Data are available for provinces and territories, cities, towns, census metropolitan areas and census divisions, as well as forward sortation areas (the first three characters of postal codes) and letter carrier walks (groupings of postal codes).

For further information on ***Charitable donors*** *(13C0014), contact Client Services (613-951-9720; fax: 613-951-4745; Internet: saadinfo@statcan.ca), Small Area and Administrative Data Division.*

Quarterly national economic and financial accounts
1961 to 1993

The Canadian system of national accounts is undergoing a revision of concepts, structure and statistical detail relating to an alignment to a new set of international standards for national accounting. Quarterly national economic and financial accounts data revised to the new standards are now available from the first quarter of 1961 to the fourth quarter of 1993.

For more information on the historical revision, see the Statistics Canada web site @ http:www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/nateco/ann.htm, or contact Karen Wilson (613-951-0439 or 613-951-3640).

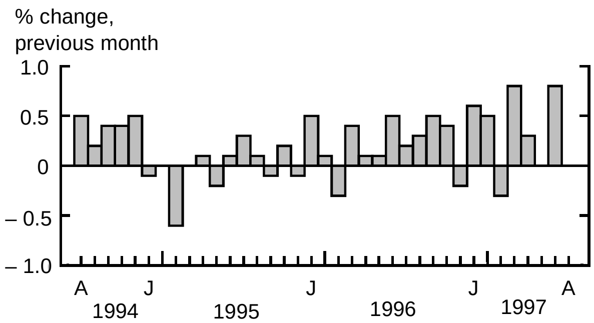
Focus on culture
Autumn 1997

The lead article in the Autumn 1997 issue of the quarterly bulletin *Focus on culture* examines changing patterns of financial support for culture in the 1990s. A second article presents a new framework for identifying all those activities and outputs considered as cultural for the purposes of the analytical and data products of the Culture Statistics Program. The final article clarifies the meaning of two of Statistics Canada’s hottest acronyms—PIPES (Project to Improve Provincial Economic Statistics) and NAICS (North American Industrial Classification System).

The Autumn 1997 issue of ***Focus on culture****, Vol. 9, no. 3 (87-004-XPB, $9/$27) is now available. For further information, contact Mary Cromie (613-951-6864), Culture Statistics Program.*

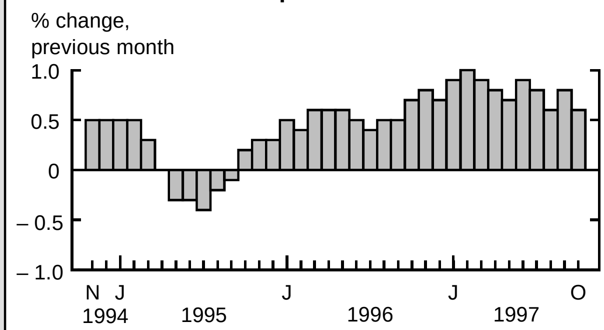
Current trends

Gross domestic product



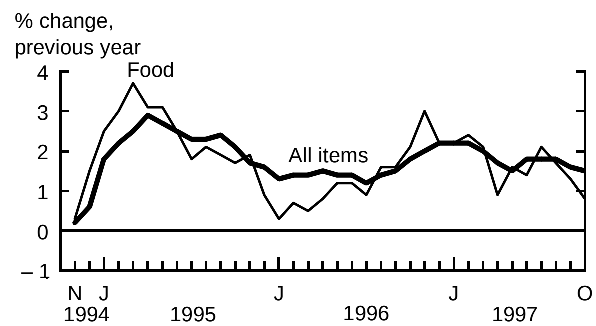
Real gross domestic product at factor cost was virtually unchanged (0.0%) in August.

Composite Index



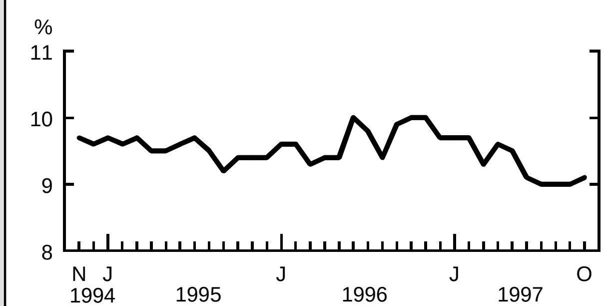
The Composite Index grew by 0.6% in October.

Consumer Price Index



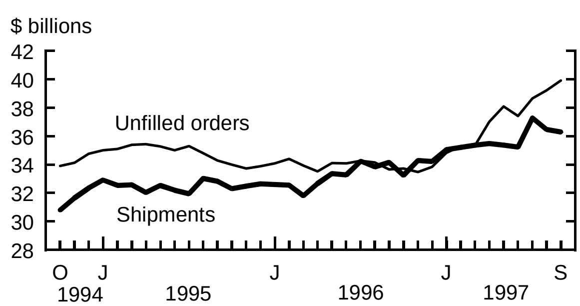
Consumers paid 1.5% more for goods and services in October 1997 than the year before. Food prices rose by 0.8%.

Unemployment rate



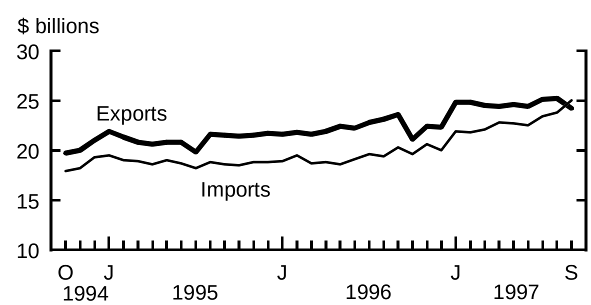
In October, the unemployment rate rose 0.1 percentage points to 9.1%.

Manufacturing



Manufacturers' shipments declined 0.3% in September to $36.3 billion. The level of unfilled orders increased 1.7% to $39.9 billion.

Merchandise trade



In September, the value of merchandise exports rose 0.2% from August to $25.0 billion. Imports increased 1.6% to $24.2 billion.

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

Latest monthly statistics

	Period	Level	Change, previous period	Change, previous year
GENERAL				
Gross domestic product ($ billion, 1986)	August	575.7	0.0%	4.1%
Composite Index (1981=100)	October*	200.8	0.6%	10.5%
Operating profits of enterprises ($ billion)	Q2 1997	26.5	0.5%	13.9%
Capacity utilization (%)	Q2 1997	84.8	0.9†	2.8†
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail trade ($ billion)	September*	19.7	0.3%	8.0%
New motor vehicle sales (thousand of units)	September	116.6	– 3.3%	13.2%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	October	14.0	– 0.1%	2.3%
Unemployment rate (%)	October	9.1	0.1†	– 0.9†
Participation rate (%)	October	64.9	0.0†	– 0.1†
Labour income ($ billion)	June	37.32	0.1%	3.9%
Average weekly earnings ($)	August	598.55	– 0.2%	1.7%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise exports ($ billion)	September*	25.0	0.2%	3.3%
Merchandise imports ($ billion)	September*	24.2	1.6%	16.5%
Merchandise trade balance (all figures in $ billion)	September*	0.9	– 0.3	– 2.6
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments ($ billion)	September	36.3	– 0.3%	4.5%
New orders ($ billion)	September	37.0	0.2%	7.1%
Unfilled orders ($ billion)	September	39.9	1.7%	16.6%
Inventory/shipments ratio	September	1.30	0.01	– 0.01
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1986=100)	October	138.2	0.1%	1.5%
Industrial Product Price Index (1992=100)	September	119.8	– 0.2%	0.5%
Raw Materials Price Index (1992=100)	September	123.7	– 2.2%	– 5.9%
New Housing Price Index (1986=100)	September	133.0	0.1%	1.1%

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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Publications released from November 21 to 27, 1997

Division/Title of publication	Period	Catalogue number	Price: Issue/Subscription Canada (C$)	Outside Canada (US$)
AGRICULTURE				
The dairy review	Q3 1997	23-001QXPB	36/119	36/119
CULTURE, TOURISM AND THE CENTRE FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS				
Focus on culture	Autumn 1997	87-004-XPB	9/27	9/27
HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS				
Household facilities and equipment	1997	64-202-XPB	31	31
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Canadian international merchandise trade	September 1997	65-001-XPB	19/188	19/188
Imports by commodity:				
microfiche version	September 1997	65-007-XMB	37/361	37/361
paper version	September 1997	65-007-XPB	78/773	78/773
Imports by country:				
microfiche version	January to September 1997	65-006-XMB	62/206	62/206
paper version	January to September 1997	65-006-XPB	124/412	124/412
MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION AND ENERGY				
Construction type plywood	September 1997	35-001-XPB	7/62	7/62
Crude petroleum and natural gas production	August 1997	26-006-XPB	19/186	19/186
Electrical and electronic products industries	1995	43-250-XPB	40	40
Gas utilities	August 1997	55-002-XPB	17/165	17/165
Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation	October 1997	44-004-XPB	7/62	7/62
Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	September 1997	31-001-XPB	20/196	20/196
Production and disposition of tobacco products	October 1997	32-022-XPB	7/62	7/62
Pulpwood and wood residue statistics	September 1997	25-001-XPB	8/73	8/73
Sawmills and planing mills	September 1997	35-003-XPB	12/114	12/114
PRICE				
Restaurant, caterer and tavern statistics, Vol. 28, nos. 5 to 12	May to December 1995	63-011-XPB	8/73	8/73
Restaurant, caterer and tavern statistics, Vol. 29, nos. 1 to 12	January to December 1996	63-011-XPB	8/73	8/73
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGIE REDESIGN PROJECT				
Science statistics: Service bulletin, Biotechnology research and development in Canadian industry, Vol. 21, no. 11	1995	88-001-XPB	8/79	8/79
Science statistics: Service bulletin, Research and development expenditures for environmental protection in Canadian industry, Vol. 21, no. 12	1995	88-001-XPB	8/79	8/79
Telephone statistics	September 1997	56-002-XPB	10/93	10/93
TRANSPORTATION				
Air charter statistics	1996	51-207-XPB	41	41

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Key release calendar: December 1997

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 **Balance of international payments,** Q3 997 **Real gross domestic product at factor cost by industry,** September 1997	**2** **Mother tongue, home language and official and non-official languages** 1996 Census	**3**	**4** **Building permits**, October 1997 **Help-wanted Index**, November 1997 **Econnections**, 1997	**5** **Labour Force Survey**, November 1997 **Field crop reporting series: November crop production estimates**, November 1997
8 **Survey on preparedness of Canadian business for year 2000** **Industrial capacity utilization rates,** Q3 1997	**9** **Moving in together: The formation of first common-law unions,** 1995 **New motor vehicle sales**, October 1997	**10** **The redistribution of overtime hours,** 1995 **Trickling down or fizzling out? Economic performance, transfers, inequality and low income** **New Housing Price Index**, October 1997	**11** **Failing concerns: Business bankruptcy in Canada** **RRSP contribution limit (room)**, 1996	**12** **National economic and financial accounts,** Q3 1997 **Income distribution by size in Canada in 1996** **1998 release dates**
15 **Census of Agriculture**, 1996 **Travel between Canada and other countries**, October 1997	**16** **Monthly Survey of Manufacturing**, October 1997 **Family food expenditure in Canada**, 1996	**17** **Composite Index**, November 1997	**18** **Canadian international merchandise trade**, October 1997 **Wholesale trade**, October 1997	**19** **Retail trade**, October 1997 **Consumer Price Index**, November 1997
22 **Canada's international transactions in securities,** October 1997 **Earnings of men and women**, 1996 **Employment Insurance**, October 1997	**23** **Employment, earnings and hours**, October 1997	**24** **Real gross domestic product at factor cost by industry**, October 1997	**25** *Happy Holidays!*	**26** Next Infomat will be released on Friday, January 9, 1998

Note: *Release dates for Canadian international merchandise trade, the Consumer Price Index and the Labour Force Survey are fixed; dates for other data series may change.*