Friday, April 18, 1997

OVERVIEW

◆ 1996 Census shows population has doubled in 45 years

On May 14, 1996, the Census counted close to 29 million people in Canada, up more than 1.5 million since 1991 and double the count taken 45 years earlier. Growth between 1991 and 1996 was due to international migration and natural increase.

Vancouver posts highest population growth

The 1996 Census showed Vancouver to be the fastest-growing census metropolitan area. Whistler, B.C., had the highest growth rate among municipalities with a population of more than 5,000.

Moderate rise in shipments recorded in February

Despite a drop in the automotive sector, manufacturers recorded a moderate increase in shipments in February.

♦ Record-setting trip counts continue

In February, the number of trips of one night or more between Canada and overseas countries reached record levels. The number of overnight stays in Canada by Americans was at its highest level since February 1988.

Gap in family income after separation or divorce

The economic situation of men and women following separation or divorce differs greatly. One year after separation, women had an appreciable loss in adjusted family income while men saw a gain.

National balance sheet accounts: National net worth grows

National net worth grew in 1996, reflecting the strength in domestic economic activity and the slowing in debt accumulation during the year.

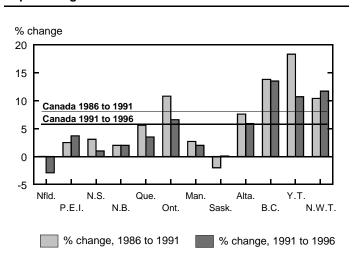
1996 Census shows population has doubled in 45 years

n May 14, 1996, the Census counted 28,846,761 people in Canada, up more than 1.5 million (+5.7%) since 1991. This growth in the five years between census counts was due—to an almost equal extent—to international migration and natural increase (births minus deaths). Since 1951, the population has doubled. Overall, the rate of population growth slowed between 1991 and 1996 compared with the previous five-year period. Between 1991 and 1996, Canada's population grew at an annual average rate of 1.1%, the highest of all G-7 industrialized nations.

Every province except Newfoundland recorded an increase in population between 1991 and 1996. British Columbia recorded the highest growth. Saskatchewan, Prince Edward Island and the Northwest Territories were the only three areas that grew faster in comparison with the 1986-to-1991 period. Growth rates in British Columbia, Ontario and Alberta, the Yukon and Northwest Territories exceeded the national average. Newfoundland's count fell for the first time since the province joined Confederation, and growth rates in the remaining provinces were lower than the national average of 5.7%.

(continued on page 2)

Population growth rate



... 1996 Census shows population has doubled in 45 years

The Census counted 3,724,500 people in British Columbia (+13.5%), more than twice the national average. International migration accounted for about 45% of B.C.'s rapid growth, interprovincial migration, 35%, and natural increase the rest.

Ontario's population rose 6.6% due to international migration, which accounted for 60%, and natural increase. About 80% of the growth was in Ontario's census metropolitan areas. Alberta recorded growth of 5.9%; natural increase accounted for about 65% and international migration was responsible for about 30%. The populations of the Yukon and the Northwest Territories increased by 10.7% and 11.7% respectively. In both cases, the gain was due overwhelmingly to natural increase. In the Northwest Territories, the increase was the result of high fertility rates and declining mortality rates among its Aboriginal population.

Population growth, 1991 to 1996						
	Population					
	1996	1991	% change			
Canada	28,846,761	27,296,859	5.7			
Newfoundland	551,792	568,474	- 2.9			
Prince Edward Island	134,557	129,765	3.7			
Nova Scotia	909,282	899,942	1.0			
New Brunswick	783,133	723,900	2.0			
Quebec	7,138,795	6,895,963	3.5			
Ontario	10,753,573	10,084,885	6.6			
Manitoba	1,113,898	1,091,942	2.0			
Saskatchewan	990,237	988,928	0.1			
Alberta	2,696,826	2,545,553	5.9			
British Columbia	3,724,500	3,282,061	13.5			
Yukon Territory	30,766	27,797	10.7			
Northwest Territories	64,402	57,649	11.7			

Newfoundland's population declined 2.9%, mainly due to migration to other provinces. Although 3 Newfoundland municipalities were among the nation's 10 municipalities with at least 5,000 population that recorded the largest percentage population declines, the census metropolitan area of St. John's grew 1.3%.

Saskatchewan, the only province to record a population loss between 1986 and 1991, recorded a 0.1% gain since the last Census. Prince Edward Island's population grew by 3.7%, the result of natural increase (55%) and interprovincial migration (35%). Quebec surpassed the 7 million mark, as the province recorded a 3.5% increase. Natural increase was responsible for about 65% of the growth, followed by international migration. New Brunswick, Manitoba and Nova Scotia recorded relatively slow growth between 1991 and 1996.

The 1996 Census confirmed that the distribution of Canada's population is shifting from east to west. In 1951, 15% of the population lived in Alberta and British Columbia. By 1996, that had increased to 22%. Ontario's share of the population increased from 33% in 1951 to 37% in 1996. Over this 45-year period, the Atlantic provinces' proportion fell from 12% to 8%, while the proportion in Quebec declined from 29% to 25%. Manitoba's share of the population declined from 6% in 1951 to 4% in 1996; Saskatchewan's dropped from 6% to 3%. (The year 1951 is used as a benchmark because it is the first census that included Newfoundland.)

For further information, contact Media Relations (613-951-4636).

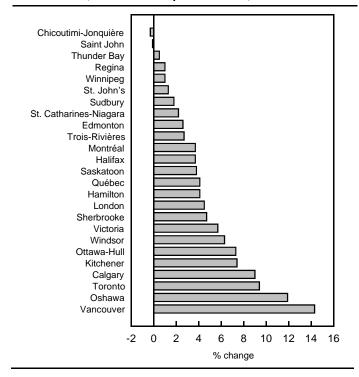
Vancouver posts highest population growth

he 1996 Census counted 17,864,646 people living in Canada's 25 census metropolitan areas (CMAs)—a 6.4% increase over the 1991 Census. The fastest-growing CMAs were Vancouver (+14.3%), Oshawa (+11.9%), Toronto (+9.4%) and Calgary (+9.0%). More than one-third (36.2%) of Canada's population lived in the four most populous CMAs: Toronto, Montréal, Vancouver and Ottawa–Hull.

In Toronto, 4,263,757 people were counted in 1996, as the CMA became the first to surpass 4 million. Its population rose by almost a quarter of Canada's total population increase. International migration accounted for more than half the growth of the Toronto CMA. Ottawa–Hull became the first census metropolitan area to reach the 1 million mark since Vancouver did so in 1971. Its population rose 7.3% and the Quebec side grew faster than the Ontario side. The strong population growth in Toronto and Ottawa–Hull was the result of small population increases in their central municipalities, coupled with strong growth in many of the municipalities on their outskirts.

Overall, the census metropolitan area of Montréal grew by 3.7% as a result of growth in the smaller municipalities, notably La Plaine, Blainville, Varennes, Mirabel and Chambly. The population of the City of Montréal (the largest component of the Montréal CMA), declined 0.1%, and Montréal-Nord fell by 4.6%. The CMA of Vancouver recorded high growth in almost all of the municipalities that make up the census metropolitan area.

Growth rates, census metropolitan areas, 1991 to 1996



(continued on page 3)

... Vancouver posts highest population growth

In total, 23 of Canada's 44 largest municipalities (those with populations of more than 100,000) experienced moderate growth rates of between 1% and 10%. Eleven had growth rates of more than 10% and only 8 declined, none more than 2.6%. Of these largest municipalities, the fastest growing were all in British Columbia and Ontario. Richmond Hill, north of Toronto, had the highest growth (+26.9%) of the largest municipalities. Three B.C. municipalities followed: Surrey, Abbotsford and Coquitlam.

Among municipalities with populations of more than 5,000, only 8 recorded increases of over 40% between 1991 and 1996, compared with 22 between 1986 and 1991. Eleven municipalities declined by more than 6% between 1991 and 1996, compared with 25 during the previous five-year census period. Whistler, B.C., had the highest growth rate (+60.8%). In absolute numbers, however, that represented an increase of just 2,713 people, raising Whistler's population to 7,172. Annapolis, in Nova Scotia,

registered the greatest decline, 21.6%, dropping it to 6,710 people. This decline was primarily due to the transfer of military personnel out of a Canadian Forces base located in the municipality.

Some smaller resource-based municipalities and one-industry towns registered notable declines: Labrador City, Nfld., New Liskeard, Kirkland Lake and Elliot Lake (all in Ontario), and Thetford Mines and Asbestos in Ouebec.

The number of occupied private dwellings continued to grow at a faster rate than the country's population. While the population rose 5.7% over the five-year census period, the number of occupied private dwellings increased 8.1%. The 1996 Census counted 819,985 more dwellings than five years earlier, bringing the number up to 10,899,427. British Columbia registered the largest percentage increase among provinces.

For further information, contact Media Relations (613-951-4636).

Moderate rise in shipments recorded in February

espite a drop in the automotive sector, broad-based strength in the rest of manufacturing lifted total shipments by 0.6% in February. Inventories were kept under control, as manufacturers posted a 0.4% increase following two months of declines. Unfilled orders were up (+0.8%) after a strong increase in January. Increases were recorded in 17 of the 22 major industry groups, but accounted for less than half (45%) of total shipments.

February's largest increases were recorded in the paper and allied products (+3.2%) and the printing and publishing (+4.2%) industries, both of which were rebounding from low levels in January. Fabricated metal products (+3.2%) also posted an increase.

In addition to the drop in the automotive sector, the only other significant decline in shipments was in the refined petroleum and coal products industry (-4.2%), which recorded its first important drop in 17 months.

The increases in both shipments and inventories left the inventory-to-shipments ratio unchanged at 1.29 in February, close to the all-time lows observed two years ago. (In the short term, a low inventory-to-shipments ratio points to a possible undersupply and suggests that output may have to be increased in the future.)

Manufacturers' shipments, February 1997 Seasonally adjusted

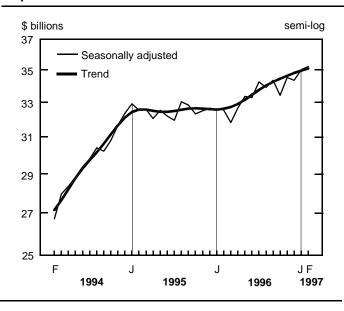
	\$ millions	% change, previous month
Canada	35,211	0.6
Newfoundland	117	1.6
Prince Edward Island	58	3.0
Nova Scotia	496	- 0.9
New Brunswick	658	- 2.9
Quebec	8,265	0.4
Ontario	18,558	0.5
Manitoba	819	3.5
Saskatchewan	530	5.7
Alberta	2,864	1.5
British Columbia	2,843	- 0.6
Yukon and Northwest Territories	5	- 1.8

Note to readers

Unfilled orders are a stock of orders that will contribute to future shipments, assuming that orders are not cancelled.

New orders represent orders received whether shipped in the current month or not. They are measured as the sum of shipments for the current month (orders received this month and shipped within the same month) plus the change in unfilled orders.

Shipments



The largest increases in inventories were recorded in the aircraft and parts (+5.2%) and the food (+2.4%) industries. These increases were partly offset by declines in the refined petroleum and coal products (-6.4%) and the electrical and electronic products (-1.8%) industries.

(continued on page 4)

... Moderate rise in shipments recorded in February

Manufacturers' backlog of unfilled orders—a key determinant of future shipments—increased 0.8% to \$35.3 billion. Unfilled orders rose due to increases in transportation equipment (+1.7%) and machinery (+1.4%), and were partly offset by a decline in primary metal (-4.1%).

New orders fell 2.0% to \$35.5 billion in February.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9550-9593 and 9581-9593.

The February 1997 issue of **Monthly survey of manufacturing** (31-001-XPB, \$19.60/\$196.00) will be available shortly. For further information, contact Richard Evans (613-951-9834) or Robert Traversy (613-951-9497), Industry Division. (See also "Current trends" on page 8.)

Record-setting trip counts continue

n February, trips of one night or more between Canada and overseas countries reached record levels, and the number of overnight stays in Canada by Americans was at its highest level since February 1988. Foreigners made a record 1.6 million trips of at least one night to Canada, up 2.0% from January.

Overseas residents (those from countries other than the United States) continued to make a record number of trips of at least one night to Canada. Americans, Canada's main source of international visitors, made 1.2% (1.1 million) more trips of one or more nights to Canada in February than in January. Residents of countries other than the United States made 26% of foreigners' overnight trips to Canada in February. According to the 1995 International Travel Survey, overseas visitors spend almost three times as much on average during overnight trips to Canada as Americans (C\$1,030 compared with C\$370, excluding international air fares).

Canadians made a record 331,000 trips overseas in February. Canadians also made more overnight trips to the United States: 1.3 million (+3.9%).

Travel between Canada and other countries, February 1997

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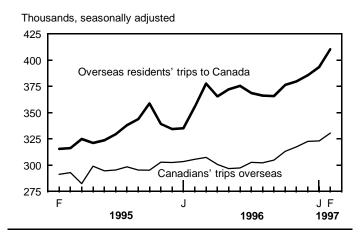
	thousands	% change, previous month	thousands	% change, previous year
	seasonally	adjusted	unadj	usted
Canadian trips abroad Auto trips to the United States Same-day One or more nights	3,044 795	3.3 4.4	2,401 406	-3.2 -2.0
Total trips, one or more nights United States ¹ Other countries	1,309 331	3.9 2.3	905 378	-1.9 7.4
Travel to Canada Auto trips from the United States Same-day One or more nights	2,151 722	4.2 2.3	1,604 341	6.7 -1.3
Total trips, one or more nights United States ¹ Other countries ²	1,143 410	1.2 4.3	562 188	1.1 13.6

^{1.} Estimates for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and estimated numbers for planes, trains, boats and other methods.

Note to readers

Month-to-month comparisons use seasonally adjusted data (data adjusted for variations that repeat annually and for variability caused by the different volumes of travellers associated with different days of the week), while year-over-year comparisons use unadjusted data (the actual traffic counts). Excursions are same-day trips.

Overnight trips between Canada and overseas countries



Americans continued to make an increasing number of car excursions (same-day trips) into Canada. The 2.2 million excursions recorded in February was the highest number since June 1981. The number of same-day car trips by Americans entering Canada via the Rainbow and Whirlpool bridges in Niagara Falls more than doubled in February 1997 compared with February 1996 (unadjusted data). A new casino, which opened in early December, is located near these two bridges.

Canadians also made more cross-border car excursions in February (+3.3%). The number of car excursions into the United States peaked in November 1991, when the Canadian dollar was worth US\$0.88 (compared with US\$0.74 in February).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2661–2697, 5780–6046 and 8200–8328.

The February 1997 issue of International travel, advance information (66-001-PPB, \$8/\$73) will be available shortly. For further information, contact Luc Dubois (613-951-1674; fax: 613-951-2909; Internet: duboluc@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

Figures for other countries exclude same-day entries by land only, via the United States.

Gap in family income after separation or divorce

hen couples separate or divorce, women tend to pay a higher financial price than men. Women saw their family income drop by 23% one year after separation, while men gained 10%. The gap exists because women generally earn less than men and most women have custody of children upon separation.

Women did recover a major portion of their losses after one year of separation. But five years after separation, women were still \$1,000 below their pre-separation adjusted family income. In contrast, men gained \$2,800 five years after separation.

Changes in income varied depending on family type, with greater variations for women. Adjusted family income for women who were single or single-parents fell 32% and 31%, respectively, a year after separation. Women who established a new relationship had an 8% increase in family income. Five years after separation, women who were in new relationships increased their adjusted family income by 14%. Single mothers still had 21% less than their pre-separation income and women without partners suffered a 19% disadvantage (these two groups accounted for over 55% of separated women).

While women experienced financial difficulty within the first year of separation, single men had the highest increase in family income (+14%). Single fathers had the lowest adjusted family income (+1%). After five years of separation, adjusted family income grew 16% for single men and 5% for single fathers. For men, the gain varied little according to family composition.

The gap in adjusted family income between men and women widens when only the payers (men) and recipients (women) of support payments are examined. Recipients had a 29% loss (-\$6,100), more than separated women generally (-\$3,900). On the

Note to readers

This article is based on the report Family income after separation, which is is an in-depth study of the financial implications of separation. It analyses the changes in after-tax income and family composition before and after separation. The focus is on married persons who became separated between 1987 and 1993 and who had children before the breakup. For the first time, support payments have been taken into account in the assessment of payers' income changes.

Income is based on after-tax 1993 dollars and is adjusted to take into account the number of family members. Income changes are expressed in medians only, which is the amount that divides the distribution into two equal groups—those with income changes above the median and those below.

other hand, payers gained 20% in adjusted family income (+\$4,200), twice that of separated men in general.

Between 1987 and 1993, an estimated 829,200 legally married Canadians with children separated. This involved 1.2 dependent children under the age of 18 per separated person. One year after separation, 89% of women were living with children under 18 years old compared with 36% for men; five years after separation, the proportions were 76% for women and 42% for men. Close to one-third of men and just over one-quarter of women formed a new relationship in the year following separation. And five years after separation, 54% of men had a new partner compared with 45% of women.

Family income after separation (13-588-MPB no. 5, \$33) is now available. For further information, contact Diane Galarneau (613-951-4626), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division, or Jim Sturrock (613-957-3732), Department of Justice.

		Years after separation			Years after separation					
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
		%			1993 dollars					
Men										
Total	10	10	12	12	15	2.000	2,000	2,200	2.400	2,800
Couples	11	12	14	15	18	2,100	2,300	2,700	2,900	3,200
Single parents	1	1	3	3	5	100	100	500	500	800
Single persons	14	14	13	13	16	2,800	2,600	2,500	2,600	2,900
Women										
Total	23	- 18	- 13	– 10	- 5	- 3.900	- 3.000	- 2,300	- 1,600	-1,000
Couples	- 8	9	11	13	14	1.300	1,500	1,900	2.300	2,600
Single parents	- 31	- 29	- 26	- 24	- 21	- 5.700	- 5.400	- 4,800	- 4,300	- 3,700
Single persons	- 32	- 29	- 25	- 22	- 19	- 6,800	- 6,100	- 5,100	- 4,700	- 3,600

^{1.} The median of percentage changes does not necessarily correspond to the median income changes because medians were calculated separately.

National balance sheet accounts: National net worth grows

n 1996, national net worth rose almost 4% to \$2.6 trillion, the combined result of an increase in national wealth and a small decline in Canada's net foreign indebtedness (what we owe to non-residents less what they owe to us). Net worth grew at a slightly faster pace than in 1995, reflecting the strength in domestic economic activity and the slowing in debt accumulation.

National wealth rose roughly 3% to reach \$2.9 trillion, in line with the rise in domestic expenditures in 1996. The gain was the result of acquisitions and revaluations of tangible assets like automobiles, houses, land, household appliances, trucks, and business machinery and equipment. Individuals accounted for just over 49% of national wealth at the end of 1996, up slightly from 1995. National wealth grew 4.0% in the personal sector, compared with 2.5% in both the corporate and government sectors.

Credit market debt (short-term paper, loans, mortgages and bonds) of non-financial domestic sectors accumulated more slowly in 1996. It grew 3.0%, down from 4% in 1995 and 6% in 1994. Federal government credit market debt grew a modest 2% in 1996, with net new issues of bonds exceeding maturing short-term paper by a small margin. For the first time in many years, federal debt grew at a slower pace than gross domestic product. Credit market debt of provincial governments also grew at a reduced rate, in line with lower provincial government borrowing requirements.

Stock market activity helped corporations continue to restructure their balance sheets in 1996. The ratio of debt-to-equity for non-financial private corporations has trended downward for the last six years. In households, debt grew 5% as the ratio of consumer debt and mortgages outstanding rose to a record high of 97% of after-tax income. The pick up in household borrowing reflected the activity in the housing market and the demand for consumer durable goods.

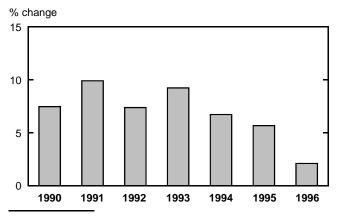
The proportion of the economy's financial assets held by financial institutions rose again in 1996, in line with the financial investments of individuals. Growth of the mutual funds industry, pension funds and segregated funds of life insurance companies was led by increases in Canadian equities and foreign securities in the year.

For the second consecutive year, the level of Canadian investment abroad grew at more than twice the rate of non-residents'

Note to readers

The National balance sheet accounts are statements of the non-financial assets owned in the sectors of the economy and of the financial claims outstanding among transactors in the economy. They consist of the balance sheets of all the various sectors in the economy. National wealth is the sum of non-financial, or tangible, assets (reproducible assets, land surrounding structures, and agricultural land) in all sectors of the economy. National net worth is wealth less what is owed to non-residents (Canada's net international investment position, or net foreign debt); alternatively, it is the sum of persons', corporations' and governments' net worth.

Federal government debt



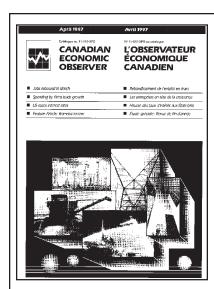
Note: Credit market debt.

investment in Canada. This growth was likely encouraged by a negative Canada–U.S. short-term interest rate differential in 1996. Consequently, after more than two years of marginal growth, Canada's net international indebtedness declined.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 751, 753-777 and 779-795.

For further information, contact the information officer (613-951-3640); to purchase an analytical document (\$50) or balance sheet data on microcomputer diskette (\$60), call the client services officer (613-951-3640), National Accounts and Environment Division.

New from Statistics Canada



Canadian economic observer

April 1997

The April issue of Statistics Canada's flagship publication for economic statistics, *Canadian economic observer*, analyses the current economic conditions and summarizes the major economic events in March. A feature article reviews major economic trends in 1996. A statistical summary contains a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and the major industrial nations.

The April 1997 issue of Canadian economic observer (11-010-XPB, \$23/\$227) is now available. For further information, contact Cyndi Bloskie (613-951-3634; Internet: ceo@statcan.ca), Current Economic Analysis Group.

1996 Census of Canada

A national overview (93-357-XPB, print, \$40) provides 1996 population and dwelling counts for many levels of geography including Canada, the provinces and territories, census divisions/census subdivisions, census metropolitan areas/census agglomerations, urban and rural areas, and forward sortation areas (the first three characters of the postal code).

New for 1996, *Postal code counts* (92F0086XCB, CD-ROM, \$60) contains 1996 Census population and dwelling counts for all six-character postal codes and forward sortation areas reported by respondents. Software that enables users to search the data set for specific postal codes as well as importing and exporting groups of postal codes is also included.

GeoRef (92F0085XCB, CD-ROM, \$60) provides the 1996 Census population and dwelling counts for all geographic areas excluding postal code, and all of the geographic reference information a census data user will require, such as geographic codes and names. It also includes a user-friendly query and retrieval software.

A range of geography products and services accompany the release of these data:

- Reference maps over 7,500 maps in 7 sets, ranging from enumeration areas to census divisions. Used to relate census data to actual physical locations. Available individually or in sets.
- Digital boundary files and digital cartographic files provide a geographic framework for commercially available geographic information systems or other mapping software. Available for all standard levels of geography.
- Custom geography services, including mapping services, where standard geography products do not fit a customer's needs.

For further information or to order any of these products, contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.



Services indicators

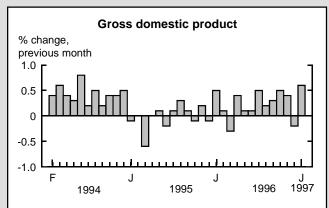
Fourth quarter 1996

The feature article in this issue of *Services indicators*, entitled "Research and development in a service economy," examines the economic structure of Canadian research and development (R&D) and identifies areas of growth in private sector industries. There has been a decline in the performance and funding of R&D by governments and educational institutions in the last five years. At the same time, there has been growth in both performance and funding of R&D in the business sector.

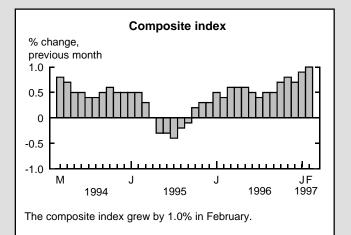
Within the business sector, services industries now account for one-third of R&D expenditures, up from one-quarter of spending a decade ago. Of total business R&D spending in Canada, the services industries' share is now among the highest in Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development countries. Leading areas of services sector R&D growth in Canada over the past 10 years have been the distributive services, wholesale trade, and management consultants. The business services industry, however, remains the largest single R&D spending service industry.

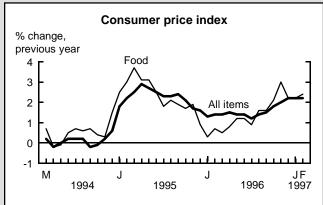
The fourth quarter 1996 issue of Services indicators (63-016-XPB, \$35/\$116) is now available. For further information, contact George Sciadas (613-951-3177), Science and Technology Redesign Project.

Current trends

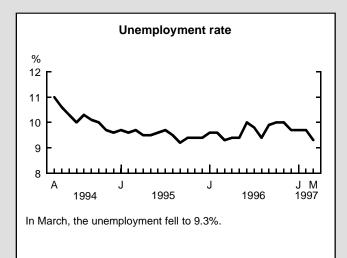


Real gross domestic product at factor cost increased 0.6% between December and January.





Consumers paid 2.2% more for goods and services in February 1997 than the year before. Food prices rose by 2.4%.





Manufacturers' shipments rose 0.6% in February to \$35.2 billion. The level of unfilled orders increased 0.8% to \$35.3 billion.



In January, the value of merchandise exports increased 3.1% from December to \$23.5 billion. Imports rose 7.2% to \$21.4 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) Composite index (1981=100) Operating profits of enterprises (\$ billion)	January February Q4 1996	560.9 189.0 25.7	0.6% 1.0% 5.7%	2.8% 8.5% 10.4%	
Capacity utilization (%)	Q4 1996	84.8	0.7†	2.4†	
DOMESTIC DEMAND					
Retail trade (\$ billion) New motor vehicle sales (thousand of units)	January February	18.8 111.4	1.4% 5.1%	5.6% 14.5%	
LABOUR	<u> </u>				
Employment (millions) Unemployment rate (%)	March March	13.8 9.3	0.4% - 0.4†	1.1% - 0.1†	
Participation rate (%)	March	64.5	- 0.1†	- 0.1†	
Labour income (\$ billion)	November	36.5	0.8%	3.6%	
Average weekly earnings (\$)	January	596.78	0.2%	4.1%	
INTERNATIONAL TRADE					
Merchandise exports (\$ billion)	January	23.5	3.1%	8.0%	
Merchandise imports (\$ billion)	January	21.4	7.2%	13.1%	
Merchandise trade balance (all figures in \$ billion)	January	2.1	- 0.7	- 0.7	
MANUFACTURING					
Shipments (\$ billion)	February*	35.2	0.6%	8.2%	
New orders (\$ billion)	February*	35.5	-2.0%	7.9%	
Unfilled orders (\$ billion)	February*	35.3	0.8%	2.6%	
Inventory/shipments ratio	February*	1.29	0.00	- 0.11	
PRICES					
Consumer price index (1986=100)	February	134.4	0.1%	2.2%	
Industrial product price index (1986=100)	February	129.8	0.1%	0.0%	
Raw materials price index (1986=100)	February	137.1	-3.2%	5.5%	
New housing price index (1986=100)	February	132.4	0.2%	0.0%	

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

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