**Friday, June 6, 1997** 

## OVERVIEW

#### ♦ Economic activity slips in March

After advancing in January and February, economic activity slipped in March when gross domestic product at factor cost fell.

#### Non-residential construction behind rise in building permits

The value of building permits for housing fell in April, but the decline was more than offset by an increase in non-residential construction intentions.

#### ♦ Decline in raw material prices continues

Manufacturers paid less for raw materials again in April, almost entirely due to lower prices for crude oil and non-ferrous metals.

#### Industrial product prices rise under exchange rate effect

In April, industrial product prices rose. But without the effect of the Canada–U.S. exchange rate on export prices, there would have been almost no change.

#### Number of El beneficiaries continues to decline

In March, the number of Canadians receiving regular EI benefits declined for the sixth consecutive month.

#### Average weekly earnings down

Although employees' average weekly earnings declined in March, they were higher than in March of the previous year.

## International travel account deficit decreases

During the first quarter of 1997, spending by visitors to Canada increased more than the expenditures of Canadians travelling abroad. The net result improved Canada's international travel account balance.

### **Economic activity slips in March**

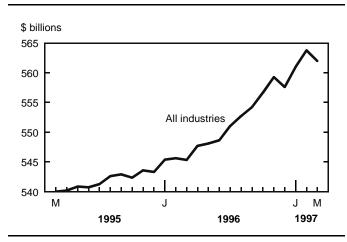
fter advancing in January and February, economic activity slipped in March when gross domestic product (GDP) at factor cost fell 0.3%. Manufacturing, wholesale and retail trade—where activity was robust in January and February—recorded the most noticeable declines. Despite the drops in March, growth in these industries accelerated during the first quarter of 1997. Activity in forestry, transportation and storage, and community, business and personal services was also down in March, and a sharp drop in the resale housing market caused financial and related services to weaken. Higher production by utilities, communications services, and construction moderated the overall drop.

Manufacturers reduced output in March (-0.9%), after raising production in January and February. Some producers lowered inventories of finished products even though overall shipments fell in March. Manufacturers of electronic goods, paper products, and motor vehicles and parts recorded the largest inventory corrections. Unfilled orders continued to accumulate in March.

Production of paper and allied products fell 1.7% in March, mainly due to lower production of newsprint, as producers chose to reduce stocks to meet the continued firm demand. Transportation equipment declined (–0.9%) for the second month in a row, with production of motor vehicles and parts, bus and truck bodies, and

(continued on page 2)

#### GDP at factor cost



#### ... Economic activity slips in March

recreational vehicles contributing about equally to the drop. Activity eased in many industries producing construction materials.

In wholesaling, activity fell 2.0% in March after growing rapidly in the previous two months—wholesalers of automobiles and parts, and farm machinery accounted for three-quarters of the drop. Sales of industrial and office machinery remained high.

Retail sales dropped 0.8% in March following gains in January and February. Motor vehicle dealers and retailers of automotive parts recorded the largest declines. Spending in clothing and furniture and appliances stores also fell following several monthly advances. Nevertheless, retailing activity grew 1.8% during the first quarter, with sales increasing in most trade groups.

More residential construction projects pushed construction activity up 0.7% in March. But sales of existing houses were particularly weak in March, and accounted for a large portion of the drop in financial and related services.

#### Note to readers

The gross domestic product (GDP) of an industry is the value added by labour and capital in transforming inputs purchased from other industries into output.

Monthly GDP by industry is valued at 1986 prices. Estimates are seasonally adjusted at annual rates.

Community, business and personal services declined 0.2% in March. A recent improvement in accommodation and food services continued into March, but declines in business and amusement services offset the advance.

#### Available on CANSIM: matrices 4670-4674.

The March 1997 issue of **Gross domestic product by industry** (15-001-XPB, \$15/\$145), will be released in June. For further information, contact Michel Girard (613-951-9145), Industry Measures and Analysis Division. (See also "Current trends" on page 8.)

# Non-residential construction behind rise in building permits

In April, the value of building permits for housing fell for the second month in a row. However, non-residential construction intentions rose to their highest level in almost seven years, more than offsetting the decline. Municipalities issued \$1.5 billion worth of building permits for new housing, down 0.9% from March. This decline coincided with the highest mortgage rates in seven months. On the other hand, industrial construction proposals and new commercial plans led to a 25.2% increase in non-residential permits, bringing the level to \$1.2 billion—its highest since July 1990. Overall, the total value of building permits reached \$2.7 billion in April (+9.3%).

Although both the single- and multi-family components declined in April (-0.9% and -1.0% respectively), the housing sector still appears strong. The value of residential permits issued from January through April 1997 was 24.8% higher than the first four months of 1996. The increase was almost entirely in the single-family housing sector, which rose 29.5%. (The single-family market is the larger of the two components that make up the residential sector and accounts for almost three-quarters of its total value.) The multifamily component also performed well in the first four months of this year, up 12.6%. According to the Canadian Real Estate Association, the resale housing market turned around in April, rising 12.4%. And Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation reported that housing starts were 36.6% higher this April than a year ago.

The non-residential sector posted its fourth consecutive monthly increase in April in the wake of an 86.9% jump in construction intentions among Canadian industries. Municipalities issued \$365 million in building permits for industrial construction. Commercial intentions rose 14.5% to \$604 million in April, while government plans for institutional building remained unchanged.

In the first four months of 1997, municipalities issued \$3.9 billion in building permits for non-residential construction, up 12.0% over the same period last year. The industrial sector led the way, followed by the institutional and commercial sectors.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 80 (levels 3-7, 16-22 and 24-32), 129, 137, 443, 989-992, 994, 995 and 4073.

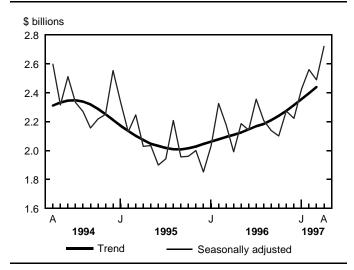
#### Note to readers

The monthly Building and Demolitions Permits Survey covers 2,400 municipalities which represent 93% of the population. It provides an early indication of building activity. The communities representing the other 7% of the population are very small, and their levels of building activity have little impact on the total.

The value of planned construction activities excludes engineering projects (waterworks, sewers, culverts, etc.) and land.

Unless otherwise stated, seasonally adjusted data are presented. The annual rate is a monthly figure that has been seasonally adjusted and multiplied by 12 to reflect annual levels.

#### Value of building permits



The April 1997 issue of **Building permits** (64-001-XPB, \$25/\$248) will be released in June. For further information, contact Sylvain Cloutier (613-951-2025; Internet: clousyl@statcan.ca), Investment and Capital Stock Division.

(continued on page 3)

**Building permits,**<sup>1</sup> April 1997 Seasonally adjusted

|                       | Total       |                                | Residential |                                | Non-residential |                                |
|-----------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
|                       | \$ millions | % change,<br>previous<br>month | \$ millions | % change,<br>previous<br>month | \$ millions     | % change,<br>previous<br>month |
| Canada                | 2,721       | 9.3                            | 1,501       | - 0.9                          | 1,220           | 25.2                           |
| Newfoundland          | 15          | 30.5                           | 10          | 127.7                          | 6               | - 24.4                         |
| Prince Edward Island  | 5           | - 24.9                         | 4           | - 28.9                         | 1               | - 4.4                          |
| Nova Scotia           | 42          | - 10.4                         | 25          | - 36.3                         | 16              | 134.0                          |
| New Brunswick         | 52          | 0.1                            | 21          | 56.1                           | 31              | - 19.4                         |
| Quebec                | 490         | 19.4                           | 237         | 8.4                            | 253             | 31.9                           |
| Ontario               | 1,204       | 17.2                           | 644         | 2.9                            | 559             | 39.5                           |
| Manitoba              | 50          | - 9.2                          | 27          | - 13.2                         | 24              | - 4.2                          |
| Saskatchewan          | 48          | - 10.7                         | 26          | 46.7                           | 22              | - 38.8                         |
| Alberta               | 386         | 22.5                           | 198         | - 1.5                          | 189             | 64.3                           |
| British Columbia      | 425         | - 16.1                         | 308         | - 13.5                         | 118             | - 22.1                         |
| Yukon                 | 3           | 71.3                           | 2           | 11.4                           | 1               | 581.0                          |
| Northwest Territories | 1           | - 56.9                         | 1           | - 51.0                         | 0               | - 76.4                         |

<sup>1.</sup> Data may not add to totals due to rounding.

# Decline in raw material prices continues

ower crude oil and non-ferrous metal prices were the biggest factors in April's 1.1% decline in raw material prices. Manufacturers also paid less for wheat, canola, logs, and iron and steel scrap. Higher prices for hogs, green coffee, soybeans and unrefined sugar partly offset the overall monthly decline. If the mineral fuels category—90% of which is crude oil—were excluded, raw material prices for April would have fallen 0.1% from March. Compared with April 1996, manufacturers paid 2.6% less for raw materials. Again, if mineral fuels were excluded, the 12-month change in April would have been 0.3%.

Crude oil prices, which have dropped 20% since the beginning of 1997, fell 3.8% in April. Warmer weather and an increase in supply contributed to the lower prices. On a 12-month basis, crude oil prices were down 10.2%. Non-ferrous metal prices declined 4.4% in April, mostly due to lower prices for copper and radioactive concentrates, nickel and lead. Prices for non-ferrous metals were down 8.4% from April 1996.

Animals and animal product prices were up 2.3% from March, and were 8.2% higher than 12 months earlier. Lower prices for furs, hides and skins, and turkeys partly offset higher prices for hogs and chickens. Compared with April 1996, higher prices for cattle for slaughter, hogs and milk were marginally offset by lower prices for fish. Hog prices have been rising recently, due to depleted hog stocks in Taiwan.

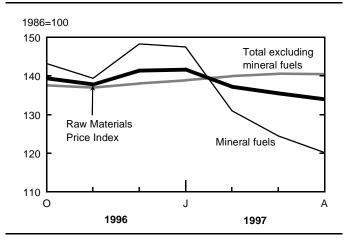
Vegetable product prices rose 0.9% in April, but fell 7.3% compared with April 1996. Higher prices for green coffee, soybeans and unrefined sugar were somewhat offset by lower prices for rubber, wheat and canola.

#### Note to readers

The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI) reflects the prices paid by Canadian manufacturers for key raw materials. Many of these prices are set in a world market. Also, unlike the Industrial Product Price Index, the RMPI includes goods that are not produced in Canada.

In July 1997, Statistics Canada will be converting its economic series to 1992=100 as its time reference year. The new series will be on different CANSIM matrices and will have different databank numbers.

#### Raw material prices



#### Available on CANSIM: matrix 2009.

The April 1997 issue of **Industry price indexes** (62-011-XPB, \$22/\$217) will be available at the end of June. For further information, contact Paul-Roméo Danis (613-951-3350; fax: 613-951-2848; Internet: danipau@statcan.ca), Prices Division.

# Industrial product prices rise under exchange rate effect

In April, industrial product prices rose 0.5% from their level in March. However, if the effect of the Canada–U.S. exchange rate on export prices were excluded, there would have been almost no change in the price level for a seventh consecutive month. The Industrial Product Price Index stood at 130.7 in April, up from its revised March level of 130.1 (1986=100).

Compared with April 1996, industrial prices advanced 1.6%. This increase was due more to declining prices in early 1996—caused by a drop in pulp prices—than to rising prices in early 1997

In April, the most important monthly increases were for motor vehicles, softwood lumber, newsprint and pulp. Virtually all of April's change in motor vehicle prices was due to the increase in the value of the U.S. dollar. Export prices for automobiles and trucks were up by almost 2.5%.

The price of softwood lumber jumped 3.4% in April to stand 22.5% higher than in April 1996. Softwood lumber price increases accounted for most of the rise in wood product prices, of which roughly a third was due to the rise in value of the U.S. dollar. In Canada, the price of softwood lumber rose despite a drop in housing starts. In the United States, housing starts in April recovered somewhat after March's decline.

Canadian paper prices were up 2.8% overall in April, but were still 14% below their April 1996 level. About half of April's increase was due to the effect of the rise in the value of the U.S. dollar. In Canada, the 4.1% increase in newsprint prices was mainly responsible for the rise in paper prices. In the United States, the price of paper rose 1.2% but was 7.2% lower than in April 1996.

Prices for Canadian pulp rose 1.0% in April. The rise in the value of the U.S. dollar prevented a decline in overall pulp prices. In the United States, pulp prices fell 2.9%. The industry continues to have high inventories relative to demand.

Petroleum products posted the only notable price decline in April. The overall price level for gasoline and fuel oil continued down, falling 2.7% at the manufacturers' level. Crude oil prices also continued to decline, dropping 3.8%. At the fuel pumps, consumers paid 1.5% less for gasoline than they did in March.

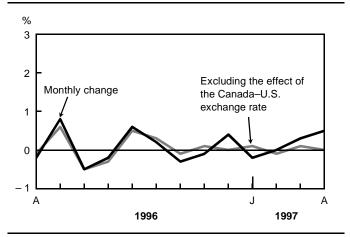
#### Note to readers

The Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI) reflects the prices that producers in Canada receive as the goods leave the plant gate. It does not reflect what the consumer pays.

Canadian producers often quote their prices in foreign currencies, particularly for motor vehicles, pulp, paper and wood products. Fluctuations in the value of the Canadian dollar against the U.S. dollar therefore affect the IPPI. It is estimated that a 1.0% change in the value of the Canadian dollar against the U.S. dollar changes the IPPI by approximately 0.2%.

In July 1997, Statistics Canada will be converting its economic series to 1992=100 as its time reference year. The new series will be on different CANSIM matrices and will have different databank numbers.

#### Monthly change in industrial prices



#### Available on CANSIM: matrices 2000-2008.

The April 1997 issue of **Industry price indexes** (62-011-XPB, \$22/\$217) will be available at the end of June. For more information, contact Paul-Roméo Danis (613-951-3350; fax: 613-951-2848; Internet: danipau@statcan.ca), Prices Division.

# Number of El beneficiaries continues to decline

In March, the number of Canadians who received regular Employment Insurance benefits declined 1.1% to reach close to 591,000. This decline was the sixth in as many months. Ontario contributed most to the drop, registering a decrease of 2.6%. The number of beneficiaries declined in nine provinces. Since September 1996, the number of regular beneficiaries has fallen by 15%.

Regular benefit payments declined 1.0% to \$747 million in March. This was the third consecutive decrease. Among the provinces and territories, nine posted declines. For the first quarter of 1997, regular benefits on an unadjusted basis were 11% lower

than in 1996. This was partly due to a drop in the number of beneficiaries and a reduction in the maximum weekly benefit rate.

The number of individuals applying for Employment Insurance benefits in March increased slightly (+0.7%) to 228,000. The number of claims registered in Alberta, Quebec and British Columbia rose, while it declined in Ontario. These provinces represent approximately 80% of claims. On an unadjusted basis, claims for the first quarter of 1997 were 12.6% lower than in 1996.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 26 (series 1.6), 5700–5717, 5735 and 5736.

For further information, contact Michael Scrim (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; Internet: labour@statcan.ca), Labour Division.

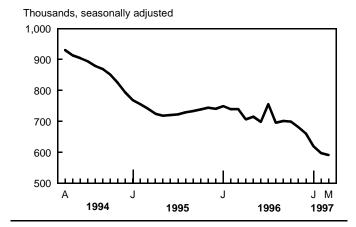
(continued on page 5)

#### ... Number of EI beneficiaries continues to decline

El beneficiaries receiving regular benefits, March 1997 Seasonally adjusted

|   | Total,<br>thousands                                       | % change, previous month   | % change,<br>previous<br>year   |
|---|---|--|---|
| Canada  | 591   | - 1.1  | - 20.3  |
| Newfoundland Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia New Brunswick Quebec Ontario Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta British Columbia Yukon | 36<br>9<br>32<br>36<br>208<br>150<br>14<br>10<br>31<br>69 | -1.1<br>-1.3<br>-0.6<br>-2.7<br>-1.1<br>-2.6<br>-0.4<br>-4.8<br>-2.8<br>0.7<br>2.1 | - 6.4<br>0.2<br>- 15.0<br>- 15.0<br>- 19.4<br>- 21.0<br>- 23.2<br>- 33.1<br>- 35.4<br>- 17.8<br>2.0 |

#### Number of EI beneficiaries paid regular benefits



### Average weekly earnings down

mployees' average weekly earnings declined 0.3% in March, led by lower earnings for employees in construction; logging and forestry; and accommodation, food and beverage services. Compared with March 1996, however, employees' earnings were 2.7% higher. Between March 1996 and March 1997,

**Average weekly earnings,** March 1997 Seasonally adjusted

|   | Industrial<br>aggregate<br>\$  | % change,<br>previous<br>month  | % change,<br>previous<br>year  |
|---|--|---|--|
| Canada  | 594.68   | - 0.3   | 2.7  |
| Newfoundland Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia New Brunswick Quebec Ontario Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta British Columbia Yukon | 525.90<br>481.40<br>499.92<br>517.48<br>557.00<br>638.45<br>518.74<br>527.33<br>596.06<br>607.64<br>704.15 | - 0.7<br>- 1.0<br>0.7<br>- 0.3<br>- 0.7<br>- 0.3<br>- 0.6<br>0.2<br>0.7<br>- 0.6<br>1.0 | - 2.1<br>0.2<br>1.9<br>0.6<br>0.2<br>3.7<br>0.9<br>6.8<br>6.6<br>1.5 |

finance, insurance and real estate; mining, quarrying and oil wells; business services; and manufacturing contributed to the rise in earnings. Education-related services and public administration partly offset this increase, as employees in these two sectors registered little gain in earnings.

The average number of hours worked per week for employees paid by the hour declined to 31.0 hours in March—the first drop since September 1996. Finance, insurance and real estate; retail trade; and construction reported reduced hours of work in March.

In manufacturing, the number of hours worked for employees paid by the hour has been at a high level for the past four months, despite a slight drop in March to 38.9 hours. Employees' average weekly earnings also declined in March, as manufacturers' shipments and unfilled orders slowed.

The preliminary estimate of the number of payroll employees in March was 18,000 higher than the February estimate.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 4285–4466, 9438–9452, 9639–9664 and 9899–9911.

Also see the monthly publication **Employment, earnings and hours** (72-002-XPB, \$31/\$310) and the historical publication **Annual estimates of employment, earnings and hours, 1983–1995** (diskette: 72F0002XDE, \$120). For further information, contact Stephen Johnson (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; Internet: labour@statcan.ca), Labour Division.

# International travel account deficit decreases

In the first quarter of 1997, spending by visitors to Canada increased more than the expenditures of Canadians travelling abroad compared with the last quarter of 1996. The net result improved Canada's international travel account balance.

Foreign visitors injected a record \$3.2 billion into the Canadian economy in the first quarter of 1997, up 4.1% from the fourth quarter of 1996. Meanwhile, Canadians travellers spent an unprecedented \$3.9 billion abroad, a 2.3% increase. The international travel account balance was therefore in a deficit position of \$714 million; however, this was 5.0% lower than the previous quarter.

Americans travelling in Canada spent an unprecedented \$1.8 billion in the first three months of 1997, an increase of 8.5% over the fourth quarter of 1996. At the same time, Canadians spent \$2.6 billion in the United States, up 3.0% from the fourth quarter of 1996. The travel account deficit with the United States fell for a second consecutive quarter, reaching \$786 milion.

For the seventh consecutive quarter, visitors to Canada from countries other than the United States outspent Canadians travelling to overseas countries during the first three months of 1997. Overseas residents spent \$1.5 billion in Canada, a slight decrease (-0.9%) from the previous quarter. Meanwhile, Canadians spent a record \$1.4 billion overseas, up 1.0%. However, the \$72 million surplus in the travel account with overseas countries was down 27% from the fourth quarter of 1996.

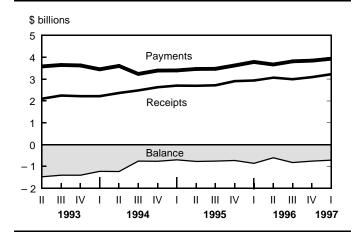
For further information, contact Luc Dubois (613-951-1674; fax: 613-951-2909; Internet: duboluc@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

#### Note to readers

Amounts are in Canadian dollars and are not adjusted for inflation. Receipts represent spending by foreigners travelling in Canada. Payments represent spending by Canadians travelling abroad. Canada's international travel account balance is the difference between receipts and payments.

Unless otherwise stated, the quarterly data in this article are seasonally adjusted.

#### International travel account



### **New from Statistics Canada**



## **Education in Canada** 1996

Do you need more data on education in Canada? Would you like to research issues and trends in more depth? Consult *Education in Canada*, the annual review of statistics on Canadian education. *Education in Canada* summarizes data on institutions, enrolment, graduates, teachers and finance for all levels of education.

Ten-year time series are shown for most variables at the Canada level and five-year time series at the provincial level. The publication also provides demographic data from the census, along with data on educational attainment, and labour force participation and unemployment rates for the adult population from the Labour Force Survey.

Education in Canada, 1996 (81-229-XPB, \$51) is now available. For further information, contact Jim Seidle (613-951-1500; fax 613-951-9040; Internet: seidjim@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

### **Education quarterly review**

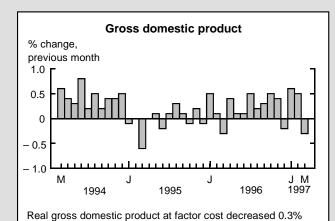
Spring 1997

The spring 1997 issue of *Education quarterly review*, now available, contains the articles: "Job-related education and training—who has access?", "Educational attainment—a key to autonomy and authority in the workplace" and "Are we headed toward a teacher surplus or a teacher shortage?".

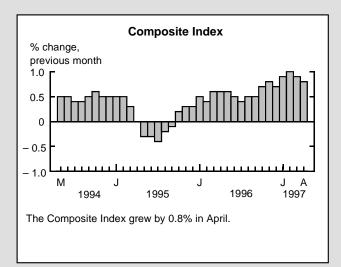
*Education quarterly review* provides insight into education surveys—their variables and potential for research—as well as a series of social, economic and education indicators for Canada, the provinces and territories and the G-7 countries.

The spring 1997 issue, Vol. 4, no. 1, of **Education quarterly review** (81-003-XPB, \$21/\$68) is now available. For further information, contact Jim Seidle (613-951-1500; fax: 613-951-9040; Internet: seidjim@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

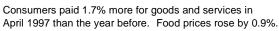
### **Current trends**

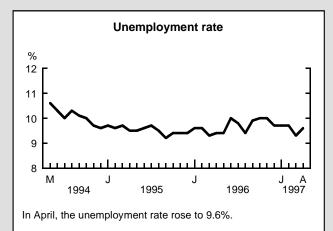


between February and March.











Manufacturers' shipments rose 0.4% in March to \$35.3 billion. The level of unfilled orders increased 0.2% to \$35.4 billion.



In March, the value of merchandise exports increased 0.4% from February to \$23.7 billion. Imports declined 2.7% to \$20.6 billion.

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

| Late  | est monthly | statistics |                               |                             |
|---|-------------|------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|   | Period      | Level      | Change,<br>previous<br>period | Change,<br>previous<br>year |
| GENERAL   |             |            |                               |                             |
| Gross domestic product (\$ billion, 1986)             | March*      | 562.0      | -0.3%                         | 3.1%                        |
| Composite Index (1981=100)                            | April       | 192.2      | 0.8%                          | 9.1%                        |
| Operating profits of enterprises (\$ billion)         | Q1 1997     | 25.5       | 3.3%                          | 10.5%                       |
| Capacity utilization (%)                              | Q4 1996     | 84.8       | 0.7†                          | 2.4†                        |
| DOMESTIC DEMAND                                       |             |            |                               |                             |
| Retail trade (\$ billion)                             | March       | 18.9       | -0.8%                         | 6.1%                        |
| New motor vehicle sales (thousand of units)           | March       | 121.7      | 8.5%                          | 24.9%                       |
| LABOUR  |             | -          |                               |                             |
| Employment (millions)                                 | April       | 13.8       | 0.2%                          | 1.0%                        |
| Unemployment rate (%)                                 | April       | 9.6        | 0.3†                          | 0.1†                        |
| Participation rate (%)                                | April       | 64.8       | 0.3†                          | $-0.2\dagger$               |
| Labour income (\$ billion)                            | March*      | 36.8       | -0.2%                         | 4.1%                        |
| Average weekly earnings (\$)                          | March*      | 594.68     | - 0.3%                        | 2.7%                        |
| INTERNATIONAL TRADE                                   | _           | _          | _                             | _                           |
| Merchandise exports (\$ billion)                      | March       | 23.7       | 0.4%                          | 9.5%                        |
| Merchandise imports (\$ billion)                      | March       | 20.6       | 2.7%                          | 10.0%                       |
| Merchandise trade balance (all figures in \$ billion) | March       | 3.1        | 0.7                           | 0.2                         |
| MANUFACTURING   |             |            |                               |                             |
| Shipments (\$ billion)                                | March       | 35.3       | 0.4%                          | 11.1%                       |
| New orders (\$ billion)                               | March       | 35.4       | - 0.2%                        | 13.1%                       |
| Unfilled orders (\$ billion)                          | March       | 35.4       | 0.2%                          | 4.2%                        |
| Inventory/shipments ratio                             | March       | 1.30       | 0.00                          | - 0.13                      |
| PRICES  |             |            |                               |                             |
| Consumer Price Index (1986=100)                       | April       | 135.3      | 0.0%                          | 1.7%                        |
| Industrial Product Price Index (1986=100)             | April*      | 130.7      | 0.5%                          | 1.6%                        |
| Raw Materials Price Index (1986=100)                  | April*      | 134.0      | - 1.1%                        | -2.6%                       |
| New Housing Price Index (1986=100)                    | March       | 132.5      | 0.1%                          | 0.2%                        |

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

## Infomat A weekly review

Published by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-N, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6.

Editor: Barbara Riggs (613) 951-1197

Head of Official Release: Chantal Prévost (613) 951-1088

Catalogue: 11-002E. Price: Canada: \$4.00 per issue, \$145.00 per year. Outside Canada: US\$4.00 per issue, US\$145.00 per year. All prices exclude sales tax.

To subscribe: Send a money order or cheque payable to the Receiver General of Canada/Statistics Canada, Operations and Integration Division, Circulation Management, 120 Parkdale Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6. To order by telephone call (613) 951-7277, or 1 800 700-1033 both in Canada and outside of Canada.

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 1997. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without prior written permission from Licence Services, Marketing Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6, Canada.

The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences – Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48 – 1984.



<sup>\*</sup> new this week

<sup>†</sup> percentage point

## Publications released from May 30 to June 5, 1997

|   |               |                     | Price: Issue/Subscription |                          |
|---|---------------|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Division/Title of publication   | Period        | Catalogue<br>number | Canada<br>(C\$)           | Outside Canada<br>(US\$) |
| AGRICULTURE   |               |                     |                           |                          |
| Cereals and oilseeds review   | March 1997    | 22-007-XPB          | 15/149                    | 15/149                   |
| Farm cash receipts, Vol. 58, no. 1  | Q1 1997       | 21-001-XPB          | 20/64                     | 20/64                    |
| Grain trade of Canada   | 1995–96       | 22-201-XPB          | 44                        | 44                       |
| CULTURE, TOURISM AND THE CENTRE FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS  |               |                     |                           |                          |
| Education in Canada   | 1996          | 81-229-XPB          | 51                        | 51                       |
| Education quarterly review, Vol. 4, no. 1   | Spring 1997   | 81-003-XPB          | 21/68                     | 21/68                    |
| DEMOGRAPHY  |               |                     |                           |                          |
| Quarterly demographic statistics  | Q4 1996       | 91-002-XPB          | 10/33                     | 10/33                    |
| DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES   |               |                     |                           |                          |
| Retail trade  | March 1997    | 63-005-XPB          | 21/206                    | 21/206                   |
| Wholesale trade   | March 1997    | 63-008-XPB          | 19/186                    | 19/186                   |
| INTERNATIONAL TRADE   |               |                     |                           |                          |
| Exports: Merchandise trade  |               |                     |                           |                          |
| Microfiche version  | 1996          | 65-202-XMB          | 103                       | 103                      |
| Paper version   | 1996          | 65-202-XPB          | 258                       | 258                      |
| Imports by country  | 1770          | 03-202-7H B         | 250                       | 250                      |
| Microfiche version  | O1 1997       | 65-006-XMB          | 62/206                    | 62/206                   |
| Paper version   | Q1 1997       | 65-006-XPB          | 124/412                   | 124/412                  |
| INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION AND FINANCE Insights onstructural change in the financial operations of Canadian insurance companies, Vol. 2, no. 1 | Spring 1997   | 61F0019XPE          | 5/15                      | 5/15                     |
| LABOUR  |               |                     |                           |                          |
| Employment, earnings and hours  | February 1997 | 72-002-XPB          | 32/320                    | 32/320                   |
| MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION AND ENERGY  |               |                     |                           |                          |
| Asphalt roofing   | April 1997    | 45-001-XPB          | 7/62                      | 7/62                     |
| Coal and coke statistics  | March 1997    | 45-002-XPB          | 12/114                    | 12/114                   |
| Construction type plywood, Vol. 45, no. 3   | March 1997    | 35-001-XPB          | 7/62                      | 7/62                     |
| Electric power statistics   | March 1997    | 57-001-XPB          | 12/114                    | 12/114                   |
| Energy statistics handbook  | Water 1997    | 37-001-AI B         | 12/114                    | 12/114                   |
| Paper version   | May 1997      | 57-601-UPB          | 387                       | 387                      |
| Electronic version  | May 1997      | 57-601-XDE          | 284                       | 284                      |
| Production and disposition of tobacco products  | April 1997    | 32-022-XPB          | 7/62                      | 7/62                     |
| PRICES  |               |                     |                           |                          |
| Average prices of selected farm inputs  | April 1997    | 62-012-XPB          | 11/50                     | 11/50                    |
| SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY REDESIGN PROJECT   | •             |                     |                           |                          |
| Service bulletin: Science statistics, Industrial  |               |                     |                           |                          |
| research and development, 1993 to 1997, Vol. 21, no. 5  | May 1997      | 88-001-XPB          | 8/79                      | 8/79                     |
| Telephone statistics  | March 1997    | 56-002-XPB          | 10/93                     | 10/93                    |
| TRANSPORTATION  |               |                     |                           |                          |
| Service bulletin: Aviation, Vol. 29, no. 5  |               | 51-004-XPB          | 11/109                    | 11/109                   |
| Service bulletin: Aviation, vol. 29, no. 3 Service bulletin: Surface and marine   |               | 31-004-AI D         | 11/107                    | 11/109                   |
|   |               |                     |                           |                          |

## How to order publications

#### To order Infomat or other publications:

Please refer to the • Title • Catalogue number • Volume number • Issue number • Your VISA or MasterCard number.

In Canada and outside Canada call: (613) 951-7277 or 1 800 700-1033 Fax your order to us: (613) 951-1584 or 1 800 889-9734

Or order on the Internet: order@statcan.ca

To order a publication by mail, write to: Statistics Canada, Operations and Integration Division, Circulation Management, 120 Parkdale Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6.

Include a cheque or money order payable to Receiver General of Canada/Publications.

Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centres provide a full range of the Agency's products and services.

For the reference centre nearest you, check the blue pages of your telephone directory under Statistics Canada.

Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.

For address changes: Please refer to your customer account number.