Friday, August 14, 1998

## OVERVIEW

#### Employment rises slightly

Despite a rise in employment in July, the level of employment has changed little since April and the unemployment rate has remained stuck at 8.4%.

#### Manufacturers much less optimistic

Manufacturers, particularly those in the transportation equipment industries, are much less optimistic about production prospects than they were in April.

#### Building permits lower in second quarter

The value of building permits declined in the second quarter of 1998, halting a series of five consecutive quarterly increases.

#### Strongest productivity gains since 1984

Last year, Canada's business sector made its strongest advances in labour productivity since 1984.

### ♦ Labour income slipped in May

The labour income of Canadians declined in May for the first time since November 1997.

#### ♦ Slowdown in department store sales

June was the third consecutive month of decreasing department store sales—the first time this has occurred since the first quarter of 1993.

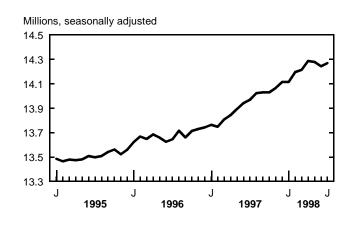
## **Employment rises slightly**

mployment increased slightly in July (+27,000), offsetting most of the significant loss in June. Following a strong upward trend in 1997 and in early 1998, there has been little change in employment since April, and the unemployment rate has remained stuck at 8.4% for four consecutive months. Youth employment increased in July, as did self-employment. The number of persons employed in services grew, but there were job losses in the goods-producing sector.

Among adults, employment was almost unchanged in July. The number of full- and part-time workers was also almost unchanged. Over the last five months, there has been little change in full-time employment, whereas it accounted for almost all of the growth during the preceding year. The number of employees in the public and private sectors was unchanged in July. Moreover, the number of persons employed in the private sector has shown little change since April. By contrast, the private sector accounted for 91% of overall employment growth in 1997 and early 1998.

Youth employment grew by 25,000 in July, reversing most of the loss in June. The number of unemployed youths fell by 14,000, lowering the youth unemployment rate by 0.6 percentage points to 15.3%. From May to August, the Labour Force Survey collects data on youths aged 15 to 24 who went to school full time in March

#### **Employment**



(continued on page 2)





#### ... Employment rises slightly

and who intend to return to school this fall. The overall student employment rate this July was slightly higher than it was in July 1997 because the employment picture has improved for 15- to 19-year-olds. However, the job situation for older students aged 20 to 24 has weakened. Among students aged 15 to 19, 46.9% were employed this July, an increase of 2.4 percentage points over July 1997. The unemployment rate for this age group stood at 20.9%, a drop of 2.8 percentage points. In contrast, 69.2% of the older students were employed, a drop of 1.1 percentage points from the same time last year. Despite the decline in employment for this age group, the unemployment rate fell 0.9 percentage points to 9.6% because of a decline in their labour force participation.

Employment grew by 56,000 from July in the services sector but fell by 29,000 in the goods-producing sector. The gain in services was concentrated in retail trade, where the number of persons employed rose by 35,000 — the first significant increase in this industry in 12 months. The finance, insurance and real estate industry also posted a job gain (+14,000) after four consecutive months of losses. A drop of 34,000 in manufacturing employment was split about equally between the durable and nondurable goods industries. The General Motors strike in the United

States caused about 15,000 temporary layoffs in manufacturing during June and July in Ontario.

Among the provinces, higher employment in Quebec (+19,000) was mitigated by more labour force participation, so that the unemployment rate in the province rose 0.3 percentage points. In Manitoba, 7,000 jobs were created, the first significant increase in employment there since August 1997. Newfoundland suffered its first significant drop in employment (-5,000) since October 1996 after a string of three monthly increases. Ontario has gone three consecutive months without employment growth, and the province's unemployment rate remains stuck at April's level of 7.2%. The employment picture was little changed in the other provinces and territories in July.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3450-3471, 3483-3502 and table 00799999.

For a summary of the latest survey, the publication **Labour force information**, for the week ending July 18, 1998 (paper: 71-001-PPB, \$11/\$103; delivery by fax: 71-001-PFB, \$300/year) is available. For further information, contact Deborah Sunter (613-951-4740) or Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750), Household Surveys Division. See also "Current trends" on page 8.

**Labour Force Survey,** July 1998 Seasonally adjusted

	Labour force		Employment		Unemployment	
	thousands	% change, previous month	thousands	% change, previous month	thousands	rate (%)
Canada	15,580.0	0.2	14,269.6	0.2	1,310.5	8.4
Newfoundland	239.3	-1.4	197.4	-2.5	41.9	17.5
Prince Edward Island	71.2	-0.4	62.4	0.5	8.8	12.4
Nova Scotia	448.7	-0.4	401.3	-0.5	47.5	10.6
New Brunswick	358.7	-1.7	318.4	-0.5	40.3	11.2
Quebec	3,716.3	0.9	3,310.3	0.6	406.1	10.9
Ontario	6,022.0	0.0	5,590.0	-0.1	432.0	7.2
Manitoba	577.7	1.0	547.1	1.4	30.7	5.3
Saskatchewan	506.6	0.3	476.0	0.3	30.5	6.0
Alberta	1,599.6	0.3	1,513.2	0.4	86.3	5.4
British Columbia	2,040.0	-0.1	1,853.5	0.2	186.5	9.1

# Manufacturers much less optimistic

ccording to the July Business Conditions Survey, manufacturers, particularly those in the transportation equipment industries, are much less optimistic about production prospects than they were in April. Manufacturers do not expect to reduce employment levels, however. Overall, they do not feel that the current level of finished products inventories is a source of concern.

The transportation equipment industries were mostly responsible for the decline in optimism. These industries were hurt somewhat by strikes in the United States that caused parts shortages at the time of the survey. Overall, the rest of the manufacturing sector remains relatively upbeat regarding

#### Note to readers

The Business Conditions Survey is conducted in January, April, July and October, and the majority of responses are recorded in the first two weeks of these months. Results are based on replies from about 5,000 manufacturers and are weighted by a manufacturer's shipments or employment. Consequently, larger manufacturers have a correspondingly larger impact on the results than smaller manufacturers. Except for the data on production difficulties, data in this release are seasonally adjusted.

production prospects in the coming three months. Thirty-five percent of manufacturers expect their production in the coming three months will decrease, whereas 21% expect their production will increase.

(continued on page 3)

#### ... Manufacturers much less optimistic

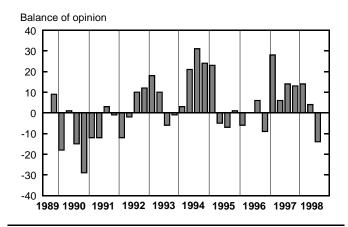
Manufacturers are only slightly less positive than they were in April about employment prospects. Thirteen percent of manufacturers stated they will be decreasing their work force, up two percentage points from April. Those stating they would increase their work force fell from 19% in April to 17% in July. According to the Labour Force Survey, almost 2.3 million people were employed in the manufacturing sector in June 1998.

Most manufacturers are still satisfied with the level of finished product inventories. In the July survey, 83% of manufacturers felt that their current level of finished products inventory was about right. Fifteen percent of manufacturers stated inventories are too high and 2% stated inventories are too low. The current balance of opinion stood at -13, a one-point improvement over the April balance. Although still negative, the balance indicates much less worry than the balances of -37 and -38 posted in the January and April surveys of 1991. The May 1998 Monthly Survey of Manufacturers indicated manufacturers were holding some \$16.8 billion in finished products inventory, 3.2% higher than the inventory level posted in the May 1997 survey.

Some 80% of manufacturers said their current level of unfilled orders is about right. The proportion of manufacturers stating higher-than-normal unfilled orders on their books fell from 10% in April to 7% in the July survey. Some 71% of manufacturers expect new orders to be about the same in the coming three months. In the April survey, only 59% of manufacturers shared this opinion.

A shortage of raw materials is a concern for 14% of manufacturers. This is a jump from the April survey. It is mostly

## Manufacturers' expectations of production prospects in the next three months



attributable to concern about a shortage of parts in the transportation equipment industries due to the recent strikes in the United States. A shortage of skilled labour continued to be a concern for 7% of manufacturers. Working capital shortages were a concern for 4% of respondents, up from 2% in April.

#### Available on CANSIM: 2843-2845.

For further information, contact Claude Robillard (613-951-3507; robileg@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

# **Building permits lower in second quarter**

he value of building permits declined in the second quarter of 1998, ending a series of five consecutive quarterly increases. An increase in non-residential permits, particularly for industrial projects, was more than offset by a decline in the residential sector. Municipalities issued building permits worth \$8.4 billion during the second quarter of 1998, down 1.7% from the first quarter. Permits for new housing declined 4.3% to \$4.4 billion, whereas planned construction for institutional, commercial and industrial projects advanced 1.5% to \$4.0 billion.

On a monthly basis, municipalities issued \$2.8 billion in permits in June, up 1.4% from May. Housing construction intentions edged up 0.6% to \$1.4 billion, following two consecutive decreases. The value of non-residential permits reached \$1.3 billion, up 2.3% over May.

In the second quarter, the value of permits declined for both single- and multi-family housing. Although it is still too early to specify a trend, the housing sector is showing signs of a slowdown. The value of residential permits for the first half of 1998 was 1.6% lower than in the first half of 1997. This decline resulted from lagging construction intentions for single-family dwellings (-5.6% to \$6.4 billion), which more than offset an increase in multi-family housing permits (+9.7% to \$2.6 billion). Historically,

#### Note to readers

The monthly Building and Demolitions Permits Survey covers 2,600 municipalities that represent 94% of the population. It provides an early indication of building activity. The value of planned construction activities shown in this release excludes engineering projects (for example, waterworks, sewers, culverts) and land. The annual rate is a monthly figure that has been seasonally adjusted and multiplied by 12 to reflect annual levels. Unless otherwise stated, the data are seasonally adjusted to ease comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations.

single-family housing accounts for more than 70% of all housing construction.

Despite the decline in the second quarter, the housing sector remains in reasonable shape. The value of permits in the quarter was only 1.3% behind levels in the corresponding period of 1997, which was a strong year for permits. Further, the value of permits issued for multi-family dwellings between April and June was 5.7% higher than in 1997, although it was not enough to compensate for a 4.0% decrease in the single-family component.

In contrast to the residential sector, the non-residential side has maintained momentum since the beginning of 1998. Non-residential construction intentions in the first half of 1998 were 34.8% above levels in the first half of 1997. Industrial projects

(continued on page 4)

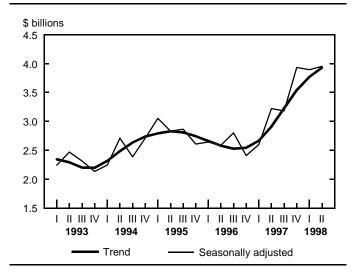
#### ... Building permits lower in second quarter

propelled the sector, where the value of permits reached \$4.0 billion in the second quarter—the highest figure since the first quarter of 1990 and a 1.5% increase over the first quarter of 1998. Only the industrial sector recorded an increase, as intentions climbed 20.6% over the first quarter of 1998 to reach \$1.1 billion. Construction of new manufacturing plants contributed the most to the industrial activity in the second quarter, which reached its highest level since the fourth quarter of 1989. The institutional component recorded the most significant decrease from the first quarter, down 12.4% to \$864 million. However, this retreat followed five consecutive quarterly increases. A reduction in construction plans of government administrative buildings was mostly responsible. In the commercial component, permits edged down 0.6% to \$2.0 billion. For the first six months of 1998, the value of building permits for each of the three components was at least 32% higher than in the corresponding period of 1997.

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

The June 1998 issue of **Building permits** (64-001-XIB, \$19/\$186) is now available on the Internet at www.statcan.ca. For analytical information, contact Michel Labonté (613-951-9690; labomic@statcan.ca), Investment and Capital Stock Division.

#### Value of non-residential building permits



**Building permits**<sup>1</sup>, Second quarter 1998 Seasonally adjusted

	Total		Residential		Non-residential	
	\$ millions	% change, previous quarter	\$ millions	% change, previous quarter	\$ millions	% change, previous quarter
Canada	8,352.5	- 1.7	4,401.1	- 4.3	3,951.4	1.5
Newfoundland	45.6	- 33.2	29.3	- 41.0	16.4	- 12.3
Prince Edward Island	27.3	33.9	14.1	- 1.0	13.2	115.4
Nova Scotia	147.4	27.1	77.2	20.1	70.2	35.7
New Brunswick	114.2	12.9	59.6	4.8	54.6	23.4
Quebec	1,297.8	- 4.9	638.1	- 4.4	659.7	- 5.4
Ontario	3,395.0	- 14.1	1,964.0	- 5.2	1,431.1	- 23.9
Manitoba	348.9	62.0	89.7	- 1.6	259.2	108.7
Saskatchewan	196.1	60.1	71.6	29.1	124.5	85.8
Alberta	1,525.7	19.7	701.6	- 7.3	824.1	59.1
British Columbia	1,207.8	- 3.3	736.1	- 3.9	471.7	- 2.3
Yukon	9.9	53.0	4.2	18.8	5.7	94.2
Northwest Territories	36.8	1,073.9	15.6	1,790.6	21.2	817.4

<sup>1.</sup> Data may not add to totals due to rounding. Some percentage changes should be interpreted with caution because of the small numbers involved.

# Strongest productivity gains since 1984

fter two straight years of virtually no improvement, the business sector's labour productivity increased 2.9% in 1997 amid strong economic growth and surging business investment. This was the strongest productivity gain since 1984, when labour productivity grew 3.3% as the economy recovered from the 1982 recession. Until 1996, productivity gains in business were far less impressive than they were during the mid-1980s. However, taking 1997's solid rebound into account, productivity since the 1991 recession has in fact grown at almost the same pace

as during the previous economic cycle in the 1980s. Labour productivity increased an average 1.1% a year between 1982 and 1991, while it increased an average 1.2% a year between 1991 and 1997.

Productivity is a measure of production efficiency that most economists regard as the foundation of growth in a country's standard of living. Labour productivity is a measure of the output per worker and is closely related to the remuneration paid to employees. It grows both when businesses become more efficient and when businesses increase the amount of machinery and equipment and advanced technologies that each worker uses.

(continued on page 5)

#### ... Strongest productivity gains since 1984

Manufacturing (a significant segment of the business sector) increased its productivity by 2.7% in 1997—more than double the rate of increase in 1996. Between 1991 and 1997, productivity in manufacturing has increased at an average annual rate of 2.3%. The largest average annual increase in productivity during the same period was in the services sector, where productivity in communications and other utilities grew 3.3%.

The 2.9% increase in labour productivity in Canada in 1997 was better than the performance in the United States, where labour productivity increased 1.8% in 1997, just under the 2.0% growth recorded in 1996. Between 1991 and 1997, labour productivity in the business sector grew an average of 1.2% a year in Canada and 1.3% a year in the United States. However, despite the similarity in productivity growth rates, output per person and hours worked have both risen faster in the United States.

Hourly compensation is also growing more slowly in Canada (+2.3% in 1996, +3.2% in 1997) than in the United States (+3.9% in both 1996 and 1997). Last year was the sixth straight year that Canadian workers in the commercial sector received lower pay increases than their American counterparts. Since the 1991 recession, hourly compensation has increased an average of 1.9% a year in Canadian businesses, compared with a 3.3% gain in the United States. (Because hourly compensation takes into account benefits and labour income earned by the self-employed, it is the most comprehensive measure of labour costs for these comparisons.)

The sliding Canadian dollar and the faster-growing compensation of American workers have both helped to keep the unit labour cost of doing business in Canada lower than in the United States. In 1997, for a fifth consecutive year, the increase in unit labour costs in Canada (+0.3%) was below that in the United States (+2.0%). Since 1991, unit labour costs have risen an average of only 0.7% a year for Canadian companies, whereas they have risen an average of 1.9% in the United States. However, when the slide in the Canadian dollar is taken into account, the unit labour costs of Canadian businesses actually declined 1.2%

#### Note to readers

Labour productivity, or real GDP per hour worked, is the ratio between output and labour input (hours worked). Economic performance as measured by labour productivity must be interpreted carefully, since these estimates also reflect changes in the other factors of production. In this article, the term productivity refers to labour productivity.

Unit labour cost is the labour cost per unit of output. It is calculated as the ratio between labour compensation and real gross domestic product. Unit labour cost will increase when labour compensation per hour worked increases more rapidly than labour productivity.

Total labour compensation includes all payments in cash or in kind by domestic producers to persons at work as remuneration for work. This includes the salaries and supplementary labour income of paid workers, plus an imputed labour income for self-employed workers.

These productivity measures exclude all non-commercial activities as well as the rental value of owner-occupied dwellings. Business GDP as defined here accounted for about 71% of GDP in 1992. Business sector goods include agriculture, fishing, forestry, mining activities, manufacturing, construction and public utilities. Business sector services comprise transportation and storage, communications, wholesale and retail trade, finance, insurance and real estate, and community, business and personal services.

in 1997, continuing the downward trend of the 1990s. Expressed in U.S. dollars, Canadian unit labour costs have fallen an average of 2.5% a year since 1991.

#### Available on CANSIM: matrices 9460-9473 and 9475-9483.

For further information, contact Jean-Pierre Maynard (613-951-3654; fax: 613-951-5403; maynard@statcan.ca), Microeconomic Studies and Analysis Division.

### Labour income slipped in May

anadians' labour income (which includes wages and salaries and supplementary labour income) declined 0.2% to \$38.3 billion in May — the first monthly decline since November 1997. Compared with May 1997, however, labour income grew by 3.0%. Wages and salaries, which totalled \$33.6 billion in May, declined in all provinces and territories except Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta. Declines in average weekly earnings and employment both contributed to the decreases in wages and salaries.

The overall decline was led by a 1.2% drop from April in wages and salaries in mining, quarrying and oil wells. Among the other industries, wages and salaries fell in commercial and personal services (-0.4%), trade (-0.4%), federal administration and other government services (-0.8%), local administration (-0.8%), other utilities (-0.8%), health and social services (-0.3%) and educational and related services (-0.2%). Wages and salaries were up 0.4% from April in construction, up 0.3% in transportation and up 0.1% in financial services.

#### Wages and salaries, May 1998 Seasonally adjusted

	\$ millions	% change, previous month	% change, previous year
Canada	33,603.9	-0.2	3.1
Newfoundland	408.2	0.6	4.6
Prince Edward Island	105.7	-0.7	-0.1
Nova Scotia	811.3	0.2	3.8
New Brunswick	677.4	-0.2	3.1
Quebec	7,287.0	-0.1	2.1
Ontario	14,070.6	-0.3	3.5
Manitoba	1,118.3	0.8	3.4
Saskatchewan	900.6	0.8	4.7
Alberta	3,595.8	0.3	6.1
British Columbia	4,418.1	-0.8	0.6
Yukon and Northwest Territories	211.0	-0.3	0.0

(continued on page 6)

#### ... Labour income slipped in May

Available on CANSIM: matrices 6597-6624.

The May 1998 issue of Estimates of labour income, monthly estimates—Tables and analytical document (13F0016XPB, \$20/\$200) are now available. Datasets are also available for purchase on microcomputer diskette (13F0016XDB). To purchase either product, contact the client services officer (613-951-3640, ieacrd@statcan.ca). For further analytical information, contact Katherine Fraser (613-951-4049; fax: 613-951-3618), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

#### Note to readers

Labour income consists of wages and salaries (88%), plus supplementary labour income (12%). Wages and salaries include items such as bonuses, gratuities, taxable allowances and retroactive wage payments. Supplementary labour income is employers' contributions to employee welfare, pension, workers' compensation and Employment Insurance plans. Labour income accounts for about 52% of the country's gross domestic product.

## Slowdown in department store sales

une was the third consecutive month of decreasing department store sales—the first time this has occurred since the first quarter of 1993. Part of the sales decline in June can be attributed to the closure of a number of department store locations. After declining 1.3% in May, department store sales were down 4.9% in June (\$1,348.9 million seasonally adjusted) compared with May (\$1,419.0 million).

On a year-over-year basis, seasonally adjusted sales were 1.8% higher in June compared with the same month a year earlier. This contrasts with 10% or more annual increases for most of 1997 and the first four months of 1998. Unadjusted for seasonality, department store sales were 0.8% higher in June compared with June 1997.

#### Available on CANSIM: matrices 111-113.

For further information, contact Leslie Kiss (613-951-3556), Distributive Trades Division.

Department store sales includi Unadjusted	ng concessions, June 1998
	June

	June 1998	June 1997 to June 1998	January to June 1998	January-to- June 1997 to January-to- June 1998
	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change
Canada	1,263.7	0.8	7,010.2	9.0
Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island <sup>1</sup>	22.7	1.8	123.2	10.6
Nova Scotia New Brunswick	37.5 28.2	0.3	208.3 154.5	9.6
Quebec	237.8	-0.1 -0.8	1.313.9	10.0 8.6
Ontario	537.9	0.7	2,958.3	9.8
Manitoba	53.5	0.0	294.2	8.7
Saskatchewan	43.1	2.7	232.0	10.5
Alberta	144.4	6.7	817.5	14.0
British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories <sup>1</sup>	158.6	-1.4	908.3	2.1

<sup>1.</sup> For reasons of confidentiality, data are combined for Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, and for British Columbia, Yukon and Northwest Territories.

### **New from Statistics Canada**



## **Education Quarterly Review** 1998

Education Quarterly Review features the articles "Distance education: Reducing barriers" and "Getting ahead in life: Does your parents' education count?".

Each issue also includes a series of social, economic and educational indicators for Canada, the provinces and territories, and the G-7 countries.

Education Quarterly Review, Vol. 5, no. 1, is now available (paper: 81-003-XPB, \$21/\$68; Internet version: 81-003-XIB, \$16/\$51). For further information, contact Jim Seidle (613-951-1500; fax: 613-951-9040; seidjim@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and The Centre for Education Statistics.

## Growing up with Mom and Dad? The intricate family life courses of Canadian children

1994-1995

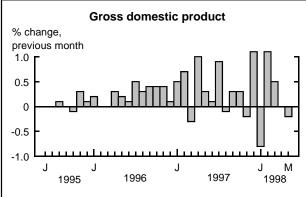
This publication provides a detailed analysis of datasets from the National Longitudinal Survey of Children and Youth, which focus on family history and the custody of children.

The article, which was written by Nicole Marcil-Gratton (Centre interuniversitaire d'études démographiques, Department of Demography, University of Montreal), profiles the changing nature of family environments. Also examined are children who experience life in lone-parent families at younger and younger ages, the risk factors for children associated with different types of conjugal unions, and the frequency of parents re-establishing old, or establishing new, conjugal relationships.

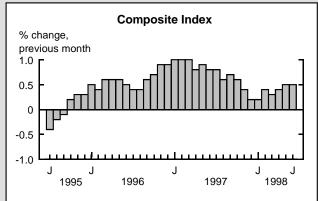
Growing up with Mom and Dad? The intricate family life courses of Canadian children (89-566-XIE) is now available free on the Internet at www.statcan.ca. For further information, contact Yvan Clermont (613-951-3326), Special Surveys Division, or Susan McKellar (613-953-4230), Human Resources Development Canada.



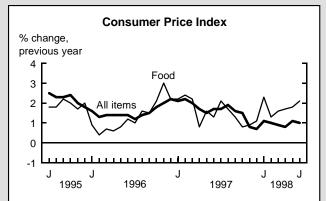
### **Current trends**



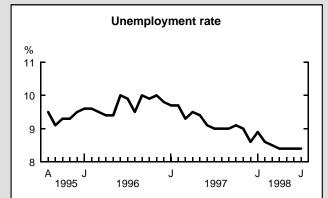
Real gross domestic product at factor cost edged down 0.2% in May.



The Composite Index grew by 0.5% in June, unchanged from May.



Consumers paid 1.0% more for goods and services in June 1998 than they did a year earlier. Food prices rose 2.1%.



In July, the unemployment rate remained stable for a fourth consecutive month at 8.4%.



Manufacturers' shipments fell 1.0% in May to \$36.9 billion. The level of unfilled orders increased 1.1% to \$44.4 billion.



In May, the value of merchandise exports was unchanged from April at \$26.1 billion. Imports slipped 1.9% to \$24.5 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, 1992)	May	710.0	- 0.2%	3.0%
Composite Index (1981=100)	June	206.7	0.5%	5.7%
Operating profits of enterprises (\$ billion)	Q1 1998	27.3	-6.0%	2.6%
Capacity utilization (%)	Q1 1998	86.0	0.3†	2.6†
DOMESTIC DEMAND				_
Retail trade (\$ billion)	May	20.9	0.5%	6.3%
New motor vehicle sales (thousand of units)	May	127.2	1.1%	10.3%
LABOUR				_
Employment (millions)	July*	14.3	0.2%	2.2%
Unemployment rate (%)	July*	8.4	$0.0^{+}$	-0.6†
Participation rate (%)	July*	64.9	0.2†	0.0†
Labour income (\$ billion)	May*	38.3	-0.2%	3.0%
Average weekly earnings (\$)	May	607.09	- 0.2%	0.8%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				_
Merchandise exports (\$ billion)	May	26.1	0.0%	6.0%
Merchandise imports (\$ billion)	May	24.5	-1.9%	8.6%
Merchandise trade balance (all figures in \$ billion)	May	1.7	0.4	- 0.3
MANUFACTURING				_
Shipments (\$ billion)	May	36.9	-1.0%	2.8%
New orders (\$ billion)	May	37.4	-0.4%	1.1%
Unfilled orders (\$ billion)	May	44.4	1.1%	14.7%
Inventory/shipments ratio	May	1.32	0.02	0.02
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1992=100)	June	108.8	0.1%	1.0%
Industrial Product Price Index (1992=100)	June	119.1	0.1%	-0.3%
Raw Materials Price Index (1992=100)	June	107.0	-3.2%	- 15.9%
New Housing Price Index (1992=100)	June*	100.1	0.1%	1.0%

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

## Infomat A weekly review

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

Editor: Tim Prichard (613) 951-1197; prictim@statcan.ca Head of Official Release: Chantal Prévost (613) 951-1088; prevcha@statcan.ca

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, 1998. 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 August 6 to 12, 1998

			Price: Issue/Subscription	
Division/Title of publication	Period	Catalogue number	Canada (C\$)	Outside Canada (US\$)
CULTURE, TOURISM AND THE CENTRE FOR				
EDUCATION STATISTICS				
Education Quarterly Review, Vol. 5, no. 1	1998			
Internet		81-003-XIB	16/51	16/51
Paper		81-003-XPB	21/68	21/68
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Exports by commodity	May 1998			
Microfiche		65-004-XMB	37/361	37/361
Paper		65-004-XPB	78/773	78/773
INVESTMENT AND CAPITAL STOCK				
Building permits	June 1998	64-001-XIB	19/186	19/186
MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION AND ENERGY				
Asphalt roofing	June 1998	45-001-XPB	7/62	7/62
Cement	June 1998	44-001-XPB	7/62	7/62
Construction type plywood	May 1998	35-001-XPB	7/62	7/62
Energy statistics handbook	July 1998			
Diskette		57-601-XDE	284	284
Paper		57-601-UPB	387	387
Oils and fats	May 1998	32-006-XPB	7/62	7/62
Shipments of solid fuel burning heating products	Second quarter 1998	25-002-XPB	8/25	8/25
The sugar situation	Second quarter 1998	32-013QXPB	13/41	13/41
PRICES				
Construction price statistics	First quarter 1998	62-007-XPB	24/79	24/79
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS				
The control and sale of alcoholic beverages in Canada	1996/97	63-202-XIB	29	29
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY REDESIGN PROJECT				
Science statistics: Service bulletin, Vol. 22, no. 2	1996	88-001-XIB	6/59	6/59
SPECIAL SURVEYS				
Growing up with Mom and Dad? The intricate family life				
courses of Canadian children	1994-1995	89-566-XIE	Free	Free

Catalogue numbers with an -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions (B signifies bilingual, E signifies English); those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; and -XPB or -XPE denote the paper version. XDB means the electronic version on diskette or compact disc.

## How to order publications

#### $\label{thm:condition} \textbf{To order Infomat or other publications:}$

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 e-mail your order: order@statcan.ca

To order on the Internet: Visit the Statistics Canada web site at www.statcan.ca and click on "Products and services".

To order 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.

Visit Statistics Canada anytime on the Internet: www.statcan.ca