



# Infomat

## A Weekly Review

Friday, November 14, 1997

### OVERVIEW

#### ◆ Employment virtually unchanged

Employment remained virtually unchanged in October. Unemployment rose, causing the unemployment rate to increase slightly over September.

#### ◆ Number of help-wanted ads rises again

The number of help-wanted advertisements in newspapers increased in October, reaching its highest level in almost seven years.

#### ◆ Another increase for New Housing Price Index

In September, the New Housing Price Index registered an annual increase for the 7th consecutive month, as well as its 9th monthly increase in 11 months.

#### ◆ Most immigrants become Canadian citizens

The 1996 Census showed that the vast majority of Canadian citizens were born here, while the remainder were naturalized citizens. Most immigrants obtain Canadian citizenship as soon as they are eligible.

#### ◆ Youth courts hear more cases in 1995/96

Although Canadian youth courts heard slightly more cases in 1995/96 than they did in the previous year, the overall caseload rate was down compared with 1992/93.

#### ◆ Abortion rate increases

Both the number and the rate of abortions rose slightly in 1995, to reach record levels. However, the magnitude of the increase was the lowest for both since 1990.

### Employment virtually unchanged

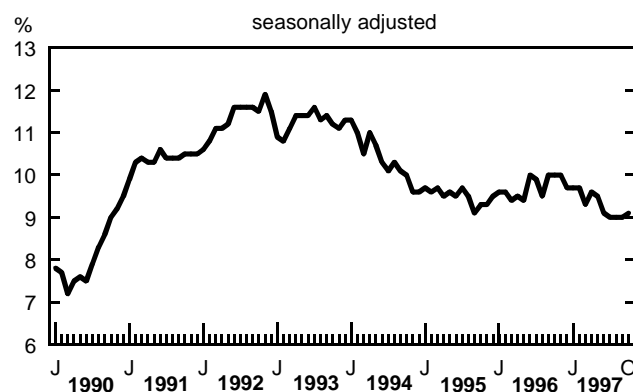
After six months of strong gains, employment was virtually unchanged in October, as an increase in part-time employment offset a drop in full-time work. Unemployment rose by an estimated 24,000, causing the unemployment rate to move up to 9.1% (+0.1 percentage points). Since February, when employment growth began to pick up, the number of employed has increased by 282,000.

Although employment for youths did not improve in October, a drop in the number of young people participating in the labour market pushed the youth unemployment rate down slightly, to 16.3%. Among adults, employment for both men and women remained unchanged in October.

In the goods-producing sector, utilities had 7,000 more jobs in October. Employment in the other primary industries category (mining, forestry and fishing) fell 15,000, offsetting some of September's increase. Although employment in manufacturing changed little in October, 108,000 jobs (+5.1%) have been added in this sector since February. In the service sector, employment fell by 31,000 in health and social services, while there were small increases in trade and business and personal services. Public sector

*(continued on page 2)*

### Unemployment rate



### ... Employment virtually unchanged

employment rose 22,000, mostly in transportation and utilities. Self-employment fell by 21,000, the second consecutive monthly decline.

There were few major changes to provincial labour market conditions in October. More than half of the job growth in the last eight months has been in Ontario. Employment in that province edged down slightly in October, while unemployment rose by 21,000. Ontario's unemployment rate increased to 8.5%, up from 8.1% in September. Quebec posted a minor increase in employment, and its unemployment rate was 11.3%, down slightly from September.

The unemployment rate in British Columbia edged up to 9.0% in October. The number of people with jobs rose slightly in Alberta, while the unemployment rate there edged up to 5.8%. Manitoba's unemployment rate remained at 6.6% for the second consecutive month.

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

**Labour force information** (71-001-PPB, \$11/\$103) for the week ending October 18, 1997, is now 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 6.)

### Labour Force Survey, October 1997 Seasonally adjusted

	Labour force		Employment		Unemployment	
	thousands	% change, previous month	thousands	% change, previous month	thousands	rate (%)
<b>Canada</b>	<b>15,430.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>14,021.7</b>	<b>- 0.1</b>	<b>1,408.9</b>	<b>9.1</b>
Newfoundland	235.9	0.2	194.5	0.7	41.4	17.5
Prince Edward Island	70.3	- 1.0	61.1	- 0.3	9.2	13.1
Nova Scotia	446.6	0.1	394.9	0.4	51.7	11.6
New Brunswick	363.4	0.9	319.4	0.6	44.0	12.1
Quebec	3,690.7	0.2	3,273.6	0.3	417.1	11.3
Ontario	5,951.1	0.1	5,447.3	- 0.3	503.9	8.5
Manitoba	576.2	- 0.2	538.0	- 0.3	38.2	6.6
Saskatchewan	506.9	0.1	474.9	- 0.3	32.0	6.3
Alberta	1,569.0	0.5	1,478.5	0.3	90.5	5.8
British Columbia	2,020.4	- 0.6	1,839.6	- 0.6	180.9	9.0

## Number of help-wanted ads rises again

The index that measures the number of help-wanted advertisements in newspapers advanced 1.6% in October, to reach 128 (1996=100). This was its highest level in almost seven years. Since the last trough in March 1996, the index has increased by 30.6%.

### Note to readers

The Help-wanted Index is compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 22 newspapers in 20 major metropolitan areas. The index measures the intention of companies to hire new workers. These indices have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed to ease month-to-month comparisons.

### Help-wanted Index, October 1997 (1996=100), seasonally adjusted

	Level	% change, previous year	% change, previous month
<b>Canada</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>24.3</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Newfoundland	125	19.0	1.6
Prince Edward Island	132	23.4	- 1.5
Nova Scotia	126	21.2	4.1
New Brunswick	138	42.3	0.0
Quebec	112	13.1	1.8
Ontario	132	25.7	2.3
Manitoba	139	29.9	3.0
Saskatchewan	133	24.3	2.3
Alberta	151	38.5	- 0.7
British Columbia	119	13.3	0.0

The index rose in six provinces, but it remained unchanged in British Columbia and New Brunswick. Recent movements observed in the number of help-wanted advertisements are in line with improvements in other economic indicators, especially employment growth.

In Ontario, the index advanced 2.3%. The indexes for Manitoba and Saskatchewan rose 3.0% and 2.3% respectively, while Alberta's index was little changed (-0.7%). For a third consecutive month, the index in British Columbia remained unchanged at 119. In the Atlantic provinces, the indexes for Newfoundland and Nova Scotia advanced by 1.6% and 4.1% respectively, while Prince Edward Island posted a slight decline (-1.5%).

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 105 (levels 8-10).**

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

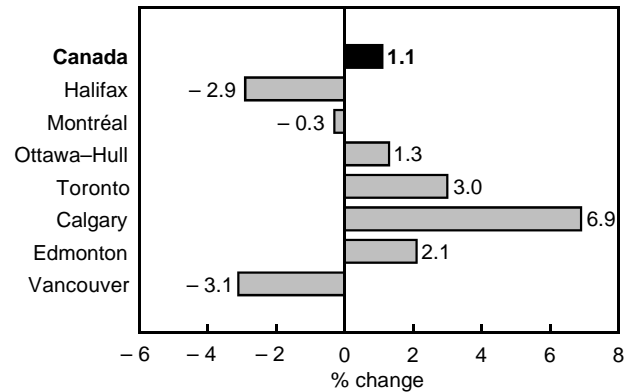
## Another increase for New Housing Price Index

The New Housing Price Index advanced 1.1% in September compared with September 1996. This was the 7th consecutive month in which the index registered an annual increase. From August to September, the index posted a 0.1% rise—its 9th monthly advance in 11 months.

The general improvement in the new home market is attributable to higher consumer confidence and favourable interest rates. Significant annual increases were noted in Calgary, Hamilton, Windsor and St. Catharines–Niagara. The competitive nature of housing markets, however, has moderated increases or has contributed to decreases.

Nevertheless, the outlook for future housing construction continues to be encouraging. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation has estimated that the trend in housing starts has generally been upward since the third quarter of 1995, despite a slowdown in September. And the Canadian Real Estate Association has reported that the resale market was up 13.9% over the first nine months of 1997 compared with the same period of last year.

New housing price indexes, September 1996 to September 1997



Available on CANSIM: matrix 2032.

The third quarter 1997 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$23/\$76) will be available in December. For further information, contact Elvira Marinelli (613-951-3350; fax: 613-951-2848; Internet: danipau@statcan.ca), Prices Division.

## Most immigrants become Canadian citizens

The 1996 Census showed that most of Canada's total population (95%) were Canadian citizens. And of those, the majority (87%) were Canadians by birth, while the remaining 13% were naturalized citizens. Since 1947, when Canadian citizenship was officially recognized, over 4.2 million immigrants have become Canadian citizens.

Those without Canadian citizenship accounted for 5% of the population, or about 1.5 million people, in 1996. Most of these individuals (89%) were landed immigrants, and the remaining 11% were non-permanent residents. People living in Canada without Canadian citizenship were most frequently from the United States (9% of non-Canadians), the United Kingdom (9%) and Hong Kong (8%).

Most immigrants who settle in Canada obtain Canadian citizenship as soon as they are eligible, usually within three to four years after immigrating. About 92% of immigrants from Eastern Europe who were eligible to apply had obtained citizenship by 1996, along with 90% from Africa and 88% from Southeast Asia. In contrast, only 56% of American immigrants who were eligible to obtain Canadian citizenship had done so.

Among recent immigrants, 59% of those who arrived in 1991 and 1992 had become citizens by 1996. By comparison, 48% of the people who immigrated in 1981 and 1982 had obtained their citizenship by 1986.

### Note to readers

*Immigrants who wish to obtain Canadian citizenship must apply for it, a process called naturalization. To apply for Canadian citizenship you must: be at least 18 years of age; have been a legal permanent resident in Canada for three of the previous four years; have lived in Canada for three out of the previous four years; be able to communicate in English or French; and, have knowledge of Canada, including the rights and responsibilities of citizenship.*

*Immigrant population refers to people who are, or have been at one time, landed immigrants in Canada. A landed immigrant is a person who has been granted the right to live in Canada permanently by immigration authorities. Some are recent arrivals, while others have resided in Canada for a number of years.*

*Recent immigrants refers to people who immigrated to Canada between 1991 and 1996.*

In 1996, only a small proportion of the population (3%) held citizenship in two or more countries (dual or multiple citizenship), up from 2% in 1991. Most people with dual citizenship were naturalized Canadian citizens who had retained the citizenship of their country of birth, or of another country. Dual citizenship has been recognized in Canada since 1977.

For more information, contact Jane Badets (613-951-2561), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division.

## Youth courts hear more cases in 1995/96

**Y**outh courts in Canada heard 111,027 cases in 1995/96, up 1.2% over the previous year. The overall caseload rate (465 per 10,000 youths) was 6.5% lower than it was in 1992/93, however, largely reflecting a drop in the property crime case rate. In contrast, the violent crime case rate increased 3.5% between 1992/93 and 1995/96.

In 1995/96, almost one-half of the cases involved property crimes. Theft of goods valued at \$5,000 and under accounted for one-third of these crimes. One in five cases involved violent crimes, and assaults accounted for one-half of these cases.

Half of the youth court cases in 1995/96 involved teens aged 16 and 17, while 12- and 13-year-olds accounted for only 12% of cases. Those aged 12 and 13 were more likely to be in court for minor assault, mischief and theft under \$5,000 than were older youths. Males accounted for most of the caseload (80%) and they dominated all age groups. While male involvement in crime tended to increase with age, female involvement peaked at 15 years of age.

Two-thirds of youth court cases resulted in convictions in 1995/96. Youths were most often found guilty in cases of motor vehicle theft, impaired driving/traffic offences, and breaking and entering. There were only seven cases of murder/manslaughter resulting in convictions. Less than 0.1% of cases were transferred to adult court.

Repeat young offenders (youths with at least 1 prior conviction) accounted for 4 of every 10 convictions in 1995/96. Persistent offenders (those with at least 3 prior convictions) accounted for 10% of the caseload with a conviction.

Probation was the most serious sentence ordered in one-half of all cases with convictions. Either open or secure custody was ordered for another third. Breaking and entering and theft under \$5,000, the two most common cases, resulted in median sentence lengths of 90 days and 30 days, respectively.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 8900-8921.**

*Youth court statistics, 1995/96* (85-522-XPB, \$37), an annual report, and *Juristat: Youth court statistics, 1995/96 highlights* (85-002-XPE, \$10/\$93, Vol. 17, no. 10) are now available. A microfiche version of the annual report is also available (85-522-XMB, \$27). For further information, contact the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics (613-951-9023; 1 800 387-2231).

## Abortion rate increases

**C**anadian women obtained 106,658 abortions in 1995, up 0.4% from 1994. This was the smallest increase since the Supreme Court struck down the nation's abortion law in 1988.

The national rate increased slightly in 1995, to 28.2 abortions per 100 live births. Part of the increase in the abortion rate is due to a decrease in the number of live births in 1995 compared with 1994.

In 1995, two-thirds of all therapeutic abortions were performed in hospitals. Hospital abortions declined for the second consecutive year (-1.5%). The number of abortions performed in hospitals fell

in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta, British Columbia, and the Yukon. In terms of rates, the ratio of hospital abortions to live births declined in Ontario, British Columbia, and the Yukon. Ontario and British Columbia have consistently recorded hospital abortion rates higher than the national rate, and have contributed more than half the annual number of hospital abortions.

The average woman who had a therapeutic abortion in a hospital was single, in her twenties, and had already had a baby. Over the last 20 years, the proportion of abortions has increased for women who had at least one prior delivery, at least one prior induced abortion, or been pregnant for less than 13 weeks.

In 1995, 63% of all hospital abortions were performed on single women, and 21% on married women. About half of all therapeutic abortions were performed on women in their twenties, while another quarter were obtained by women in their thirties.

An increasing proportion of abortions are being performed in the early stages of pregnancy. Those in which the pregnancy was less than 13 weeks accounted for 9 out of every 10 hospital abortions in 1995. This may be one of the reasons for a drop in the rate of complications immediately following the procedure. In 1995, this rate was 1.1%.

Abortions performed in clinics, compared with those in hospitals, were more frequent among single women. Over 39% of abortions performed in clinics occurred when the women had been pregnant less than 9 weeks, compared with 29% of abortions at the same stage in hospitals. In addition, 17% of abortions performed in clinics involved pregnancies of 13 to 20 weeks' duration, compared with only about 10% at the same stage in hospitals.

For further information, contact Surinder Wadhwa (613-951-3415); for statistical tables, contact the Custom Services Unit (613-951-1746), Health Statistics Division.

### Therapeutic abortions

	Total therapeutic abortions	Abortions reported within Canada from:		Legal abortions reported from the United States	Abortion rate per 100 live births
		hospitals	clinics <sup>1</sup>		
1985	69,216	62,712	3,706	2,798	18.4
1988	72,693	66,137	4,617	1,939	19.3
1989	79,315	70,705	7,059	1,551	20.2
1990	92,901	71,092	20,236	1,573	22.9
1991	95,059	70,277	23,343	1,439	23.6
1992 <sup>2</sup>	102,085	70,408	31,151	526	25.6
1993	104,403	72,434	31,508	461	26.9
1994	106,255	71,630	34,287	338	27.6
1995	106,658	70,549	35,650	459	28.2

1. Before 1990, the data relate to Quebec. In 1990, in addition to Quebec, five provinces (Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia) reported data on abortions performed in clinics. For 1991 to 1995, Alberta, and for 1994 and 1995, New Brunswick, reported similar data.

2. Revised figures.

## Note to readers regarding the quarterly national economic and financial accounts

**T**he December 1 release of the third quarter 1997 national economic and financial accounts has been postponed to December 12. A pre-release of quarterly historical data on CANSIM, covering the 1961-to-1993 period, is scheduled for November 24. The remaining data from the first quarter of 1994 to the third quarter of 1997 will be released on CANSIM at 8:30 a.m., December 12.

On December 1, monthly gross domestic product for September will be released at 1986 prices. The release of the monthly GDP by industry at 1992 prices, scheduled for December 1, is delayed. The revised monthly estimates will be released on December 24, with October results.

The quarterly Canadian balance of international payments for the third quarter of 1997 will be released as scheduled on December 1, 1997.

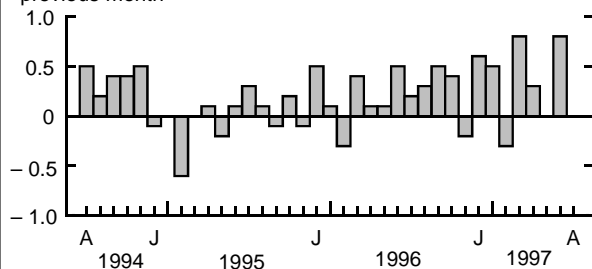
*For more information regarding the historical revision, the new table formats and new CANSIM numbers for the National economic and financial accounts, see the Statistics Canada web site at [www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/nateco/ann.htm](http://www.statcan.ca/english/concepts/nateco/ann.htm), or call Karen Wilson (613-951-0439).*



## Current trends

### Gross domestic product

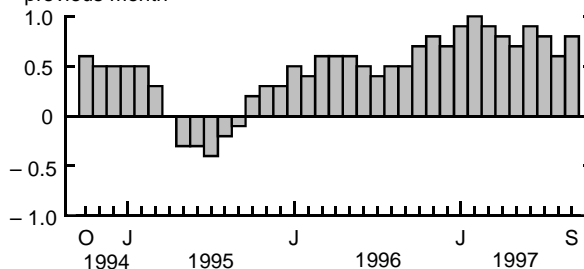
% change,  
previous month



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

### Composite Index

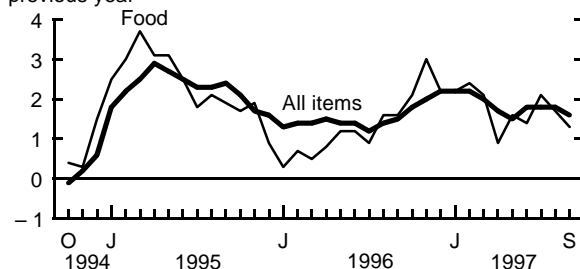
% change,  
previous month



The Composite Index grew by 0.8% in September.

### Consumer Price Index

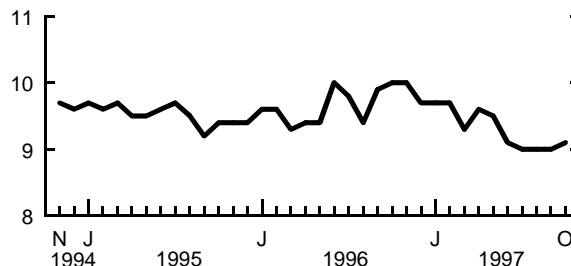
% change,  
previous year



Consumers paid 1.6% more for goods and services in September 1997 than the year before. Food prices rose by 1.3%.

### Unemployment rate

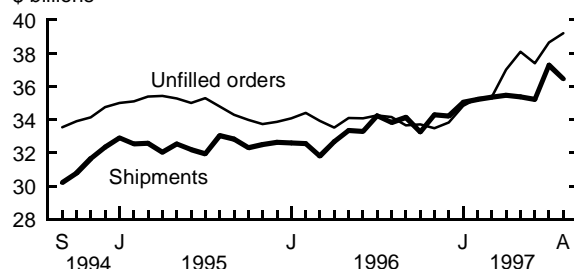
%



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

### Manufacturing

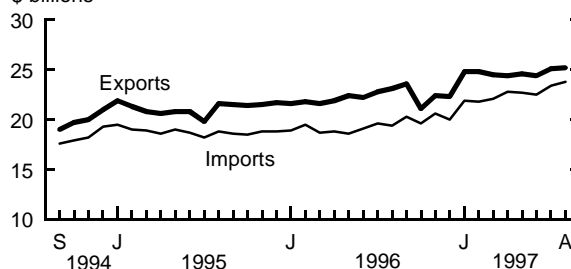
\$ billions



Manufacturers' shipments declined 2.3% in August to \$36.5 billion. The level of unfilled orders increased 1.3% to \$39.2 billion.

### Merchandise trade

\$ billions



In August, the value of merchandise exports rose 0.4% from July to \$25.2 billion. Imports increased 1.6% to \$23.8 billion.

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

## Latest monthly statistics

	Period	Level	Change, previous period	Change, previous year
<b>GENERAL</b>				
Gross domestic product (\$ billion, 1986)	August	575.7	0.0%	4.1%
Composite Index (1981=100)	September	199.8	0.8%	10.6%
Operating profits of enterprises (\$ billion)	Q2 1997	26.5	0.5%	13.9%
Capacity utilization (%)	Q2 1997	84.8	0.9†	2.8†
<b>DOMESTIC DEMAND</b>				
Retail trade (\$ billion)	August	19.5	- 0.1%	7.9%
New motor vehicle sales (thousand of units)	August	120.9	2.8%	21.1%
<b>LABOUR</b>				
Employment (millions)	October*	14.0	- 0.1%	2.3%
Unemployment rate (%)	October*	9.1	0.1†	- 0.9†
Participation rate (%)	October*	64.9	0.0†	- 0.1†
Labour income (\$ billion)	June	37.32	0.1%	3.9%
Average weekly earnings (\$)	August	598.55	- 0.2%	1.7%
<b>INTERNATIONAL TRADE</b>				
Merchandise exports (\$ billion)	August	25.2	0.4%	4.0%
Merchandise imports (\$ billion)	August	23.8	1.6%	19.4%
Merchandise trade balance (all figures in \$ billion)	August	1.4	- 0.3	- 2.9
<b>MANUFACTURING</b>				
Shipments (\$ billion)	August	36.5	- 2.3%	6.6%
New orders (\$ billion)	August	37.0	- 2.4%	7.8%
Unfilled orders (\$ billion)	August	39.2	1.3%	13.8%
Inventory/shipments ratio	August	1.29	0.05	- 0.03
<b>PRICES</b>				
Consumer Price Index (1986=100)	September	138.1	- 0.1%	1.6%
Industrial Product Price Index (1992=100)	September	119.8	- 0.2%	0.5%
Raw Materials Price Index (1992=100)	September	123.7	- 2.2%	- 5.9%
New Housing Price Index (1986=100)	September*	133.0	0.1%	1.1%

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

\* new this week

† percentage point

## Infomat

### A weekly review

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## Publications released from November 7 to 13, 1997

Division/Title of publication	Period	Catalogue number	Price: Issue/Subscription	
			Canada (C\$)	Outside Canada (US\$)
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>				
Cereals and oilseeds review	August 1997	22-007-XPB	15/149	15/149
<b>BALANCE OF PAYMENTS</b>				
Canada's international transactions in securities	August 1997	67-002-XPB	18/176	18/176
<b>CANADIAN CENTRE FOR JUSTICE STATISTICS</b>				
Juristat, Assaults against children and youth in the family, Vol. 17, no. 11	1996	85-002-XPE	10/93	10/93
<b>HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS</b>				
Labour force information	week ending October 18, 1997	71-001-PPB	11/103	11/103
<b>INDUSTRY MEASURES AND ANALYSIS</b>				
Gross domestic product by industry	August 1997	15-001-XPB	15/145	15/145
<b>INTERNATIONALE TRADE</b>				
Exports by commodity (microfiche)	August 1997	65-004-XMB	37/361	37/361
Exports by commodity (paper)	August 1997	65-004-XPB	78/773	78/773
<b>INVESTMENT AND CAPITAL STOCK</b>				
Building permits (microfiche)	September 1997	64-001-XMB	25/140	25/140
Building permits (paper)	September 1997	64-001-XPB	25/248	25/248
<b>LABOUR</b>				
Employment, earnings and hours	August 1997	72-002-XPB	32/320	32/320
<b>MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION AND ENERGY</b>				
Consumption containers and other packaging supplies				
by the manufacturing industries	1995	31-212-XPB	29	29
Electric lamps (light bulbs and tubes)	September 1997	43-009-XPB	7/62	7/62
Production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing	September 1997	41-011-XPB	7/62	7/62
Steel wire and specified wire products	September 1997	41-006-XPB	7/62	7/62

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