



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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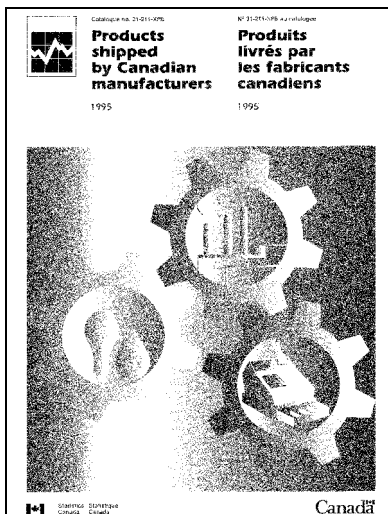
MAJOR RELEASES

- **Composite Index, November 1997** 2
The growth of the leading indicator eased again, from 0.6% in October to 0.5% in November, although the slowdown has been largely confined to the natural resource sector and the stock market.

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Products shipped by Canadian manufacturers 1995

The publication *Products shipped by Canadian Manufacturers, 1995*, is now available. The publication is based on the Annual Survey of Manufactures.

The publication contains an analysis of products shipped by Canadian manufacturers and a feature article on the first destination of manufacturing shipments. Also included is a table containing data on value and quantity of products shipped by manufacturers based on the Standard Classification of Goods, for Canada and provinces.

The publication *Products shipped by Canadian manufacturers, 1995* (31-211-XPB, \$67) is now available. See *How to order publications*. A CD-ROM on products shipped by Canadian manufacturers is also available on demand.

For further information, contact Bruno Pépin (613-951-3529; fax: 613-951-3522; Internet: pepibru@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction, and Energy Division.



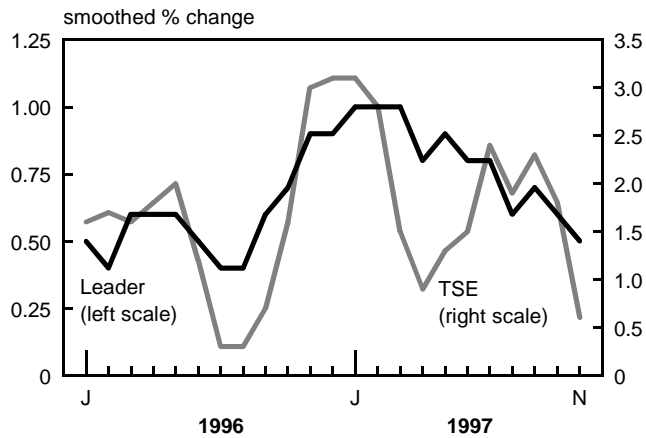
MAJOR RELEASES

Composite Index

November 1997

The growth of the leading indicator eased again, from 0.6% in October to 0.5% in November, although the slowdown has been largely confined to the natural resource sector and the stock market. Business spending, the main engine of growth in recent months, continues to lead the way.

Leader and stock market



Spending by business firms has accelerated in recent months. This was reflected in the trend

of business services employment, non-residential building and imports of machinery and equipment. Manufacturers fared less well, particularly industries related to natural resources. The growth of new orders slowed down, while the ratio of shipments to stocks levelled off.

Resource stocks also lay behind all of the retreat in the TSE, as commodity prices were buffeted by the crisis in Asian countries. Stocks related to domestic demand, however, fared better.

The housing index edged down, as existing home sales slumped. Housing starts continued to firm in November, after rental vacancy rates dropped. The firming was particularly marked for the Prairies, which benefited from its largest net gain in interprovincial migration in over a decade. At the same time, spending on durable goods grew steadily.

Stock markets in the United States, which are less oriented to resources, recovered completely and contributed to the growth of their leading indicator. Other contributors to this growth came from the average work week and the money supply.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 191.

For further information on the economy, the December issue of *Canadian economic observer* (11-010-XPB, \$23/\$227) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Economic Analysis Group. □

Composite Index

	June 1997	July 1997	Aug. 1997	Sept. 1997	Oct. 1997	Nov. 1997	Last month of data
							% change
Composite leading indicator (1981=100)	195.5	197.0	198.1	199.4	200.6	201.7	0.5
Housing index (1981=100) ¹	133.9	132.6	131.4	130.2	129.8	129.4	-0.3
Business and personal services employment ('000)	2,105	2,114	2,124	2,134	2,147	2,161	0.7
TSE 300 stock price index (1975=1,000)	6,194	6,340	6,462	6,611	6,730	6,770	0.6
Money supply, M1 (\$ millions, 1981) ²	37,107	37,230	37,436	37,580	37,766	37,990	0.6
U.S. composite leading indicator (1967=100) ³	221.4	221.7	222.0	222.3	222.7	223.0	0.1
Manufacturing							
Average work week (hours)	39.3	39.5	39.6	39.7	39.7	39.7	0.0
New orders, durables (\$ millions, 1981) ⁴	13,578	13,853	13,978	14,194	14,352	14,491	1.0
Shipments/inventories of finished goods ⁴	1.68	1.68	1.68	1.69	1.69	1.69	0.00 ⁵
Retail trade							
Furniture and appliance sales (\$ millions, 1981) ⁴	1,227.7	1,239.0	1,249.9	1,259.9	1,271.9	1,282.4	0.8
Other durable goods sales (\$ millions, 1981) ⁴	4,210.5	4,256.9	4,287.1	4,323.9	4,347.0	4,365.7	0.4
Unsmoothed composite	198.4	199.2	199.2	202.5	202.9	203.4	0.2

¹ Composite Index of housing starts (units) and house sales (multiple listing service).

² Deflated by the Consumer Price Index for all items.

³ The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the month immediately preceding.

⁴ The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for two preceding months.

⁵ Difference from previous month.



OTHER RELEASES

Railway carloadings

October 1997

Carload freight (excluding intermodal traffic) loaded by railways in Canada totalled 23.0 million tonnes in October, up 5.6% from the same period of 1996. The carriers received an additional 2.0 million tonnes from United States connections during October.

Intermodal (piggyback) tonnage of 1.7 million tonnes represented an increase of 1.5% compared with the same month last year. The year-to-date figures show an advance of 9.9%.

Total traffic, consisting of carload freight and intermodal traffic, advanced by 5.3% during the reference month bringing the year-to-date total to 221.8 million tonnes, up 7.5% from the previous year. Receipts from United States connections increased 11.5% during the same period.

Cumulative data for 1997 and 1996 have been revised.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 1431.

The October 1997 issue of *Railway carloadings* (52-001-XPB, \$11/\$103) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information, contact Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0009; Internet: larocque@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Public sector employment and wages and salaries

1996

Public sector employment and wages and salaries declined for the fourth consecutive year. Employment fell by 89,000 jobs (-3.0%) in 1996 while wages and salaries declined from \$107 billion to \$103 billion (-4.0%).

About 39% of the decline in public sector employment was in provincial and territorial government employment, which fell by almost 35,000 employees.

Federal government business enterprise employment also fell by about 35,000 employees,

mainly due to the privatization of Canadian National Railways and Petro Canada. Employment in the federal government fell by 15,000 jobs, while other components of the public sector declined by 4,000 jobs.

Note: Historically revised public sector employment and salaries and wages between 1981 to 1996 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2720, 2860, 2863, 2864 and 2866.

These data, as well as other public sector employment and wages and salaries data, will be available in the annual publication *Public sector employment and wages and salaries, 1996* (72-209-XPB, \$44), which will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

Data are also available through custom tabulation. For information or for general inquiries on the Public Institutions Division's products and services, contact Viola Jabbour, Data Dissemination and External Relations Coordinator, (613-951-0767; fax: 613-951-0661; Internet: @statcan.jabbvio.ca).

For further information on this release, contact Jean-Pierre Leroux (613-951-8561) Public Employment Section, Public Institutions Division. ■

Stocks of frozen poultry meat

December 1, 1997 (preliminary)

Stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage as of December 1, 1997, are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 5675-5677.

For further information on this release, contact Sandra Jarrett (613-951-3847; Internet: jarrsan@statcan.ca), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Econnections: Linking the environment and the economy, Concepts, sources and methods of the Canadian system of environmental and resource accounts, 1997

Catalogue number 16-505-GPE

(Canada: \$39; outside Canada: US\$39).

Pulpwood and wood residue statistics, October 1997

Catalogue number 25-001-XPB

(Canada: \$8/\$73; outside Canada: US\$8/US\$73).

Products shipped by Canadian manufacturers, 1995

Catalogue number 31-211-XPB

(Canada: \$67; outside Canada: US\$67).

Average prices of selected farm inputs, October 1997

Catalogue number 62-012-XPB

(Canada: \$11/\$50; outside Canada: US\$11/US\$50).

Touriscope: International travel, Advance information, December 1997

Catalogue number 66-001-PPB

(Canada: \$8/\$73; outside Canada: US\$8/US\$73).

All prices exclude sales tax.

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