



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, December 19, 1997

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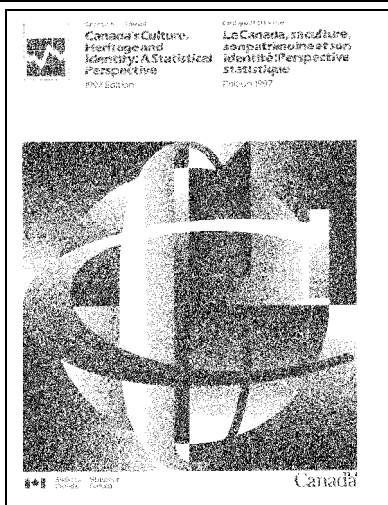
## MAJOR RELEASES

- **Consumer Price Index, November 1997** 3  
Between November 1996 and November 1997, the Consumer Price Index rose by 0.9%. This was the first annual increase to fall below one percent since January 1995.
- **Retail trade, October 1997** 6  
Retail sales advanced for the fourth consecutive month. In October, rising sales by motor vehicle dealers pushed retail sales ahead by 0.3%.

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### Canada's culture, heritage and identity: A statistical perspective 1997

*Canada's culture, heritage and identity: A statistical perspective*, available today, provides a broad perspective of the changing cultural landscape in Canada. Data from all the Culture Statistics Program's surveys, as well as data from other sources, are brought together into one comprehensive report that presents the most complete picture ever drawn of culture and the arts in Canada.

The publication contains over 100 bilingual pages packed with explanatory text, charts and summary tables. Canada's ethnic diversity is examined as well as trends in government and private sector expenditures on culture. Employment, revenues and expenditures in the cultural sector are also examined.

*Canada's culture, heritage and identity* is an important research tool for professors, students, arts administrators and anyone interested in knowing more about culture and the arts in Canada. It profiles cultural sectors as diverse as printed matter and literature; music and performing arts; visual arts; film and video; radio and television; and sport.

*Canada's culture, heritage and identity: A statistical perspective* (87-211-XPB, \$31) is now available. See *How to order publications*. For more information, contact Paul McPhie (613-951-9038) or Lisa Shipley (613-951-1544; fax: 613-951-9040), Culture Statistics Program.



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**OTHER RELEASES – concluded**

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## MAJOR RELEASES

### Consumer Price Index

November 1997

Between November last year and November this year, consumers across Canada saw the prices of the goods and services making up the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket rise by an average 0.9%.

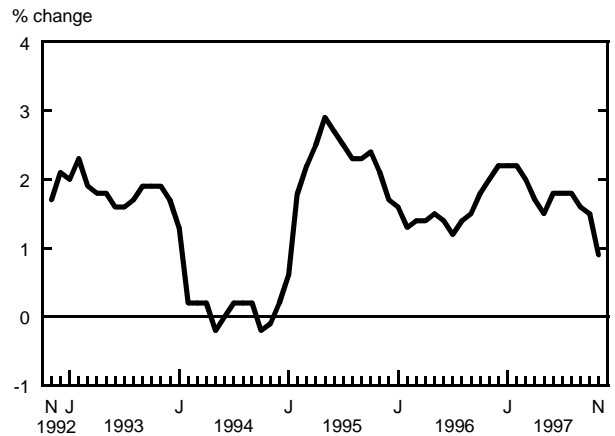
The 0.9% annual increase in November was significantly less than the 1.5% rise measured in October. The small annual rise in November relative to that of October was explained, for the most part, by decreases in transportation and cablevision charges combined with a less pronounced increase in women's clothing prices. The following table portrays these price movements.

	Oct. 1997/Oct. 1996	Nov. 1997/Nov. 1996
	% change	% change
<b>All-items</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Automotive vehicle insurance premiums	8.0	-0.4
Purchase of automotive vehicles	1.9	-0.3
Gasoline	1.5	-2.5
Cablevision	4.4	-3.6
Women's clothing	2.7	1.0

The decrease in the annual movement for auto insurance was related to a major jump in rates reported in November last year. The decline in the annual movement of the new vehicle index was due to the fact that dealers did not increase prices as much with the introduction of 1998 models as they had with 1997 models. Together, these two components accounted for the majority of the difference between the October and November all-items annual price movements.

Contributing largely to the 0.9% annual advance in the all-items price index were significant increases in air fares, university tuition fees and local telephone service charges. Notable price advances were also observed for cigarettes, restaurant meals, food purchased from stores and piped gas. Consumers, however, paid much less in mortgage interest charges than they did a year ago. Gasoline, soft drinks and computer equipment were other items with lower prices.

Percentage change in the Consumer Price Index from the same month of the previous year



### The CPI fell by 0.1% between October and November

The small 0.1% monthly decline in the CPI in November resulted from several opposing price movements. The downward pull was largely associated with a seasonal decline in traveller accommodation rates and lower charges for gasoline, clothing, cablevision services, owned accommodation, and selected household furnishings. Higher prices were noted for food, new vehicles, air transportation and piped gas.

A major factor in the latest monthly decline in the CPI was a 12.0% drop in traveller accommodation charges between October and November as winter rates were introduced. A similar monthly decline was registered in November last year.

Gasoline prices fell by a further 3.0% in November following a drop of 2.4% in October. Price declines were observed in November in all provinces except Prince Edward Island. With the latest decline, the price of gasoline stood 2.5% below its level of a year ago. An anticipated glut of crude oil on international markets was a factor putting downward pressure on the domestic price of gasoline.

Clothing prices fell by 2.1% in November. Clothing prices generally fall in November as stores lower prices to reduce their inventories. The price decreases in women's and children's wear this November were a bit larger than usual.

Cablevision charges fell by 7.7% in November. Several suppliers offered new channels without additional charges until the new year. Because subscribers received more service for the same payment, the CPI treats this as a price decline.

Homeowners benefited from lower owned accommodation charges. This was due to continuing declines in mortgage interest charges and a drop in maintenance and repair charges.

Lower prices for house and yard tools and for kitchen equipment contributed to the 1.1% decline in the household furnishings index. Also contributing to the decline was discounted prices offered by several large chain stores on household textiles.

While other prices dropped, food prices rose 0.9%. Higher prices for fresh vegetables (notably for tomatoes and lettuce) were the major factors. A seasonal shift to greater dependence on imports, unfavourable weather conditions in California and a depreciation of the Canadian dollar all contributed to the price increases.

Price changes for new model vehicles are introduced in the CPI in November of each year. Comparisons are made between the features of the new and the previous year's models. Adjustments are made to the prices to compensate for any differences in features. Rebates are also taken into account. The calculations showed that, on average, new vehicles cost 1.6% more in November than in October. Usually, larger increases occur when new vehicles are introduced. On average, the price of the 1998 models in November was slightly lower than the price of comparable models in November last year.

Natural gas rates advanced 3.9%. Substantial price increases were introduced by some suppliers in British Columbia and Alberta. There was, however, a price drop in November in Ontario, as a special charge levied in October was removed.

Air fares rose by 3.4% in November following declines of 1.2% and 4.8% observed in September and October respectively. The latest change was associated with fare increases on domestic routes, the cancellation of seat sales on some trans-Atlantic

routes and increases on some flights to Caribbean destinations. Large increases in March and July combined with the latest rise have catapulted airfares to 14.6% above their levels a year ago.

### Provincial highlights

Between November 1996 and November 1997, increases in provincial CPI's ranged from 0.1% in Saskatchewan to 1.4% in Alberta. In Saskatchewan, gasoline, telephone services, fresh produce and new vehicles were some of the commodities that showed lower price movements than the national average. The April reduction in provincial sales taxes was also a contributing factor to the low rate. The higher rate in Alberta was due primarily to larger than average increases for new homes, furniture, natural gas, and restaurant meals.

The annual rise in Whitehorse was 1.9%, a stark contrast to the annual decline of 1.2% in Yellowknife.

Most provinces showed a monthly change between -0.1% and +0.1%. Ontario was the province with the largest decline (-0.3%). This was mainly due to a reduction in piped gas rates and a smaller than average increase in food prices. The CPI for Yellowknife showed a 0.7% drop. Unusual declines were noted for food, traveller accommodation and cablevision services.

### Available on CANSIM: matrices 7440-7454 and 7477-7478.

Available at 7 a.m. on the Internet @ <http://www.statcan.ca> in "Latest news from Statistics Canada."

The November 1997 issue of the *Consumer Price Index* (62-001-XPB, \$11/\$103) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

The December 1997 Consumer Price Index will be released on January 22, 1998.

For further information on this release, contact Sandra Shadlock (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-2848; Internet: [infounit@statcan.ca](mailto:infounit@statcan.ca)), Prices Division. □

**The Consumer Price Index and major components**  
1986=100

	Nov. 1997	Oct. 1997	Nov. 1996	Oct. 1997 to Nov. 1997	Nov. 1996 to Nov. 1997
	unadjusted				
	% change				
<b>All-items</b>	<b>138.0</b>	<b>138.2</b>	<b>136.8</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Food	130.5	129.3	129.3	0.9	0.9
Shelter	134.4	134.4	134.3	0.0	0.1
Household operations and furnishings	125.6	126.1	124.1	-0.4	1.2
Clothing and footwear	133.5	135.6	131.6	-1.5	1.4
Transportation	148.1	147.8	147.9	0.2	0.1
Health and personal care	139.9	139.5	137.4	0.3	1.8
Recreation, education and reading	149.9	152.7	147.5	-1.8	1.6
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	152.4	151.9	146.8	0.3	3.8
Goods	131.1	131.0	130.4	0.1	0.5
Services	146.5	146.9	144.8	-0.3	1.2
All-items excluding food and energy	140.4	140.8	139.1	-0.3	0.9
Energy	133.3	134.8	133.4	-1.1	-0.1
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared with 1986	72.5	72.4	73.1		
All-items (1981=100)	182.7				

**The Consumer Price Index by province, Whitehorse and Yellowknife**

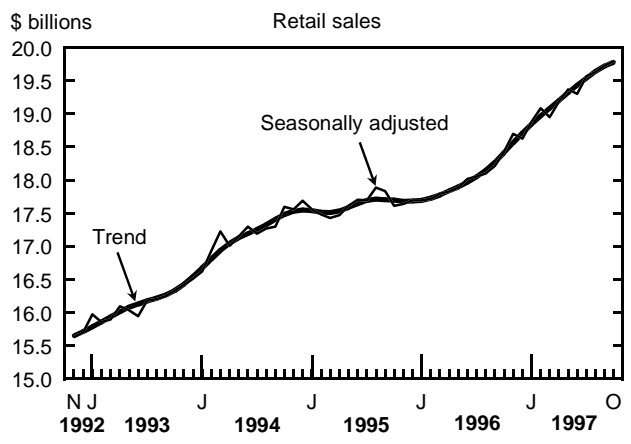
	Nov. 1997	Oct. 1997	Nov. 1996	Oct. 1997 to Nov. 1997	Nov. 1996 to Nov. 1997
	unadjusted				
	% change				
Newfoundland	132.3	132.6	130.9	-0.2	1.1
Prince Edward Island	135.5	135.4	134.3	0.1	0.9
Nova Scotia	135.7	135.9	134.3	-0.1	1.0
New Brunswick	134.1	134.3	132.6	-0.1	1.1
Quebec	135.3	135.2	134.2	0.1	0.8
Ontario	139.3	139.7	138.2	-0.3	0.8
Manitoba	141.8	141.6	140.0	0.1	1.3
Saskatchewan	140.2	140.3	140.0	-0.1	0.1
Alberta	138.6	138.8	136.7	-0.1	1.4
British Columbia	139.6	139.5	138.8	0.1	0.6
Whitehorse	136.0	136.1	133.4	-0.1	1.9
Yellowknife	133.9	134.8	135.5	-0.7	-1.2

## Retail trade

October 1997

Rising sales by motor vehicle dealers pushed retail sales ahead by 0.3% in October to \$19.8 billion. This followed a 0.5% increase in September. October was the fourth consecutive monthly increase in sales by retailers.

Sales continue to advance in October



While retail sales have generally been rising since the first quarter of 1996, strong advances began in the last quarter of 1996. The level of sales for the first 10 months of 1997 was 7.6% higher than the same period in 1996.

The strong advances in retail sales at the end of 1996 occurred in an environment of declining interest rates. Purchases were concentrated in motor vehicle and furniture retailers. Since the spring of 1997, sales took-off in department stores and other durable goods stores. Other specialized stores have been slower in sharing the increase in consumer spending.

### Motor vehicle dealers lead the way

Sales in the automotive sector drove ahead in October (+0.5%). Advancing sales by motor and recreational vehicles were the largest contributor to this increase (+2.2%). The number of new motor vehicles sold in October increased by 1.9%. Sales by vehicle dealers posted a large increase in the last quarter of 1996 and have generally been rising since. Motor vehicle sales have been a major contributor to the growth in retail sales over the past year.

### Note to readers

With this release, retail trade constant dollar data will be rebased to the 1992 reference year. This was done to conform with the historical revisions to the System of National Accounts. Until January 22, 1998, users may obtain rebased constant dollar retail trade data by contacting Greg Peterson (613-951-3592; Internet: petegre@statcan.ca). These data are also available on CANSIM: matrix 2420.

### General merchandise sales also strong

Sales by general merchandise stores advanced by 1.2% in October. Within the general merchandise sector, sales by department stores fell by 0.1%, the first decline since December 1996. Other general merchandise stores saw improving sales (+3.0%) in October. Sales by general merchandise stores have generally been rising since the end of 1994.

Sales by clothing stores increased 1.1% in October on the strength of shoe stores (+7.7%) and other clothing stores (+1.8%). These advances offset declines by men's clothing (-2.2%) and women's clothing (-1.2%) stores. Sales in clothing stores were flat for the first half of 1997. Apart from this pause, sales in clothing stores have generally been rising since early 1996.

### Food store sales falter

A decline in sales in October was reported in food stores (-0.6%). Sales by supermarkets and grocery stores were down in October (-0.4%). Sales by other food stores also retreated (-2.9%). Sales by food stores have generally been rising since the spring of 1996.

Sales in supermarkets and grocery stores had been rising since the fall of 1996. A number of factors may be responsible for this increase. For example, supermarkets may be taking away sales from other food stores, which have experienced declining sales since the recent peak in December 1996. Also, non-food retailers may be selling less food while supermarkets may be selling more non-food items.

Drug stores (-0.6%) and furniture stores (-0.2%) also experienced a decline in sales in October. Sales in drug stores have generally been rising since the spring of 1995 with pauses in the summer of 1996 and the spring of 1997. Furniture store sales have been rising since the spring of 1996 after a slump, which began at the start of 1995.

### Prairie retailers post the largest gains

The Prairie provinces posted the largest percentage gains in retail sales in October. As a region, retail sales advanced 1.3%, with increases reported for most retail sectors. Only drugstores posted a decline. Through most of 1997, Alberta has been leading the advances in retail sales across the country.

Ontario retailers (+1.0%) also experienced a strong increase in sales in October. This advance was broadly based as six out of seven retail sectors posted gains. Only drug stores saw a decline in sales. Retail sales in Ontario have been surging after lagging behind the rest of the country through 1996 and early 1997.

The decline in sales in Quebec (-0.8%) was broadly based in October. Only clothing stores and the automotive sector posted increases. Retail sales in Quebec have started to ease in recent months. Sales had been strong from the spring of 1996 to the summer of 1997.

Retail sales remained unchanged in British Columbia in October, at \$2.8 billion. Retreating sales by food stores and the automotive sector balanced the advances posted in all other sectors. Although sales have been stable the last three months, 1997 has been a volatile year in British Columbia.

In October, sales in Atlantic Canada fell by 0.8% as declines in the food and automotive sector offset advances in all other sectors.

### Related indicators of November sales

Initial estimates indicate an increase in the number of new motor vehicles sold in November. The number of employees in retail trade declined by 1.2% in November from the previous month. Total employment rose 0.2%. The number of housing starts in November dropped by 0.5% from the same period in 1996. Wholesale sales rose 1.8% in October.

### Available on CANSIM: matrices 2299, 2398-2417 and 2420.

The October 1997 issue of *Retail trade* (63-005-XPB, \$21/\$206) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Louise Généreux (613-951-3549; Internet: [logener2@statcan.ca](mailto:logener2@statcan.ca)). For analytical information, contact Greg Peterson (613-951-3592; Internet: [petegre@statcan.ca](mailto:petegre@statcan.ca)), Retail Trade Section, Distributive Trades Division. □

**Retail sales**

	Oct. 1996	July 1997 <sup>r</sup>	Aug. 1997 <sup>r</sup>	Sept. 1997 <sup>r</sup>	Oct. 1997 <sup>p</sup>	Sept. to Oct. 1997	Oct. 1996 to Oct. 1997
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions					% change	
<b>Food</b>	<b>4,554</b>	<b>4,709</b>	<b>4,768</b>	<b>4,769</b>	<b>4,741</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>4.1</b>
Supermarkets and grocery stores	4,197	4,361	4,430	4,425	4,406	-0.4	5.0
All other food stores	358	348	338	344	334	-2.9	-6.6
<b>Drug and patent medicine stores</b>	<b>1,026</b>	<b>1,066</b>	<b>1,081</b>	<b>1,082</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>4.8</b>
<b>Clothing</b>	<b>1,091</b>	<b>1,090</b>	<b>1,119</b>	<b>1,115</b>	<b>1,127</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>3.4</b>
Shoe stores	151	139	146	142	152	7.7	1.2
Men's clothing stores	132	136	134	136	133	-2.2	0.7
Women's clothing stores	346	341	350	355	351	-1.2	1.5
Other clothing stores	462	473	489	482	491	1.8	6.2
<b>Furniture</b>	<b>918</b>	<b>986</b>	<b>1012</b>	<b>998</b>	<b>996</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>8.6</b>
Household furniture and appliance stores	709	766	790	780	777	-0.4	9.6
Household furnishings stores	209	220	222	218	220	0.6	5.1
<b>Automotive</b>	<b>6,875</b>	<b>7,446</b>	<b>7,343</b>	<b>7,476</b>	<b>7,517</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>9.3</b>
Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers	4,454	4,901	4,805	4,876	4,982	2.2	11.8
Gasoline service stations	1,364	1,324	1,361	1,379	1,380	0.1	1.2
Automotive parts, accessories and services	1,057	1,222	1,178	1,222	1,155	-5.4	9.3
<b>General merchandise stores</b>	<b>2,015</b>	<b>2,180</b>	<b>2,201</b>	<b>2,205</b>	<b>2,230</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>10.7</b>
<b>Retail stores not elsewhere classified</b>	<b>1,943</b>	<b>2,085</b>	<b>2,102</b>	<b>2,075</b>	<b>2,102</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>8.2</b>
Other semi-durable goods stores	631	675	665	658	659	0.2	4.5
Other durable goods stores	472	506	525	514	530	3.0	12.3
All other retail stores not elsewhere classified.	840	904	911	902	913	1.2	8.6
<b>Total, all trade groups</b>	<b>18,422</b>	<b>19,563</b>	<b>19,625</b>	<b>19,720</b>	<b>19,788</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>7.4</b>
<b>Total excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers</b>	<b>13,968</b>	<b>14,662</b>	<b>14,820</b>	<b>14,844</b>	<b>14,806</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>6.0</b>
<b>Provinces and territories</b>							
Newfoundland	289	313	308	307	305	-0.8	5.4
Prince Edward Island	81	90	88	85	87	2.0	7.8
Nova Scotia	589	622	600	608	598	-1.7	1.5
New Brunswick	450	452	458	468	467	-0.3	3.8
Quebec	4,484	4,689	4,643	4,663	4,627	-0.8	3.2
Ontario	6,564	7,082	7,191	7,182	7,255	1.0	10.5
Manitoba	668	691	695	701	711	1.3	6.3
Saskatchewan	614	658	653	669	669	0.1	9.0
Alberta	1,986	2,172	2,160	2,203	2,241	1.7	12.8
British Columbia	2,631	2,728	2,759	2,761	2,760	0.0	4.9
Yukon	25	25	25	26	24	-6.9	-2.6
Northwest Territories	41	43	44	44	44	-0.8	8.3

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.



**Retail sales**

	Oct. 1996	Sept. 1997 <sup>r</sup>	Oct. 1997 <sup>p</sup>	Oct. 1996 to Oct. 1997
unadjusted				
	\$ millions			%
				change
<b>Food</b>	<b>4,545</b>	<b>4,589</b>	<b>4,825</b>	<b>6.2</b>
Supermarkets and grocery stores	4,195	4,261	4,494	7.1
All other food stores	350	328	331	-5.3
<b>Drug and patent medicine stores</b>	<b>1,046</b>	<b>1,048</b>	<b>1,103</b>	<b>5.5</b>
<b>Clothing</b>	<b>1,133</b>	<b>1,152</b>	<b>1,189</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Shoe stores	163	150	171	5.0
Men's clothing stores	134	124	135	1.0
Women's clothing stores	359	374	362	0.9
Other clothing stores	477	504	520	9.1
<b>Furniture</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>1,047</b>	<b>9.2</b>
Household furniture and appliance stores	739	806	813	10.0
Household furnishings stores	220	225	234	6.5
<b>Automotive</b>	<b>7,001</b>	<b>7,403</b>	<b>7,719</b>	<b>10.3</b>
Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers	4,511	4,837	5,116	13.4
Gasoline service stations	1,383	1,370	1,406	1.7
Automotive parts, accessories and services	1,108	1,196	1,197	8.0
<b>General merchandise stores</b>	<b>2,092</b>	<b>2,058</b>	<b>2,340</b>	<b>11.9</b>
<b>Retail stores not elsewhere classified</b>	<b>1,845</b>	<b>2,030</b>	<b>2,020</b>	<b>9.5</b>
Other semi-durable goods stores	603	661	629	4.2
Other durable goods stores	412	485	476	15.7
All other retail stores not elsewhere classified	830	884	915	10.3
<b>Total, all trade groups</b>	<b>18,621</b>	<b>19,311</b>	<b>20,244</b>	<b>8.7</b>
Total excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers	14,110	14,474	15,128	7.2
<b>Provinces and territories</b>				
Newfoundland	291	293	311	6.8
Prince Edward Island	81	85	88	9.1
Nova Scotia	592	593	604	2.1
New Brunswick	463	463	486	5.1
Quebec	4,583	4,554	4,755	3.7
Ontario	6,605	7,086	7,426	12.4
Manitoba	684	676	741	8.4
Saskatchewan	638	642	708	11.0
Alberta	2,001	2,126	2,295	14.7
British Columbia	2,618	2,724	2,762	5.5
Yukon	25	26	25	0.1
Northwest Territories	41	42	44	9.0

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.



## OTHER RELEASES

### Sales of natural gas

October 1997 (preliminary)

Natural gas sales in Canada totalled 5 008 million cubic metres in October, up a modest 0.9% from October 1996. Sales to the industrial sector (including direct sales) increased 3.5%, while residential (-4.7%) and commercial (-2.8%) sales declined. The gain in sales to the industrial sector (including direct sales) was due to higher demand for gas by electric utilities, mines and the chemical industry.

Year-to-date sales were up 2.7% from the same period in 1996. Sales decreased to the residential (-1.3%) and commercial (-2.1%) sectors because of milder weather during the 1997 heating season. Sales to the industrial sector (including direct sales) continued strong growth, posting a 6.0% increase from the same period last year.

### Sales of natural gas

	Oct. 1997 <sup>P</sup>	Oct. 1996	Oct. 1996 to Oct. 1997
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
<b>Natural gas sales</b>	<b>5 008 062</b>	<b>4 965 078</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Residential	974 724	1 023 203	-4.7
Commercial	722 801	743 548	-2.8
Industrial	2 040 972	2 119 142	3.5
Direct	1 269 565	1 079 185	

	1997 <sup>P</sup>	1996	1996 to 1997
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
<b>Natural gas sales</b>	<b>53 939 813</b>	<b>52 527 301</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Residential	12 938 045	13 112 165	-1.3
Commercial	9 249 398	9 447 462	-2.1
Industrial	20 198 032	19 868 470	6.0
Direct	11 554 338	10 099 204	

<sup>P</sup> Preliminary figures.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1052-1055.

The October 1997 issue of *Gas utilities* (55-002-XPB, \$17/\$165) will be available in January. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Gary Smalldridge (613-951-3567; Internet: [smalgar@statcan.ca](mailto:smalgar@statcan.ca)), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

### Railway carloadings

Seven-day period ending December 7, 1997

Carloadings of freight (excluding intermodal traffic) during the seven-day period ending December 7, 1997, increased 7.1% to 4.7 million tonnes from the same period of last year. The number of cars loaded advanced 13.6%.

Intermodal traffic (piggyback) tonnage totalled 354 000 tonnes, up 12.2% from the same period of last year. The year-to-date figures show an increase of 8.8%.

Total traffic (carloadings of freight and intermodal traffic) advanced 7.5% during the period. This brought the year-to-date total to 248 million tonnes, up 6.9% from the previous year.

All year-to-date figures have been revised.

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

### Construction Union Wage Rate Index

November 1997

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada increased to 144.0 in November from 143.4 in October 1997. On a year-over-year basis, the composite index increased by 2.9%.

**Note:** Union wage rates are published for 16 trades in 20 metropolitan areas for both the basic rates and rates including selected supplementary payments. Indexes (1986=100) are estimated for the same metropolitan areas and are published for those where a majority of trades are covered by current collective agreements.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 956, 958 and 2033-2038.

The fourth quarter 1997 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79) will be available in March. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Elvira Marinelli (613-951-3350; Internet: [marielv@statcan.ca](mailto:marielv@statcan.ca); fax: 613-951-2848) Client Services Unit, Prices Division. ■

## Sawmills and planing mills

October 1997

Sawmills in Canada produced 5 851.3 thousand cubic metres of lumber and ties in October, down 2.0% from 5 968.7 thousand cubic metres (after revisions) produced in October 1996.

Year-to-date production stood at 54 935.4 thousand cubic metres, up 1.7% from 54 015.7 thousand cubic metres (after revisions) produced over the same period in 1996.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 53 and 122 (series 2).**

The October 1997 issue of *Sawmills and planing mills* (35-003-XPB, \$12/\$114) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Gilles Simard (613-951-3516; Internet: [simales@statcan.ca](mailto:simales@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction, and Energy Division. ■

## Cereals and oilseeds review

October 1997

Production estimates for wheat were somewhat higher than the two previous 1997 output estimates. Ideal harvest conditions prevailed over much of the Prairies this fall and growers realised somewhat better than anticipated wheat yields. Additional information is now available in the *Cereals and oilseeds review* for October.

The October issue of *Cereals and oilseeds review* (22-007-XPB, \$15/\$149), which contains the November situation report, will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Ron Wonneck (204-983-3445) or Les Macartney (613-951-8714), Grain Marketing Unit, Agriculture Division. ■

## Deliveries of major grains

November 1997

Data on November grain deliveries are now available.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 976-981.**

The delivery data are contained in the November issue of *Cereals and oilseeds review* (22-007-XPB, \$15/\$149), which will be available in February. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Ron Wonneck (204-983-3445) or Les Macartney (613-951-8714), Grain Marketing Unit, Agriculture Division. ■

## Selected financial indexes

November 1997

November 1997 figures are now available for selected financial indexes (1986=100).

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 2031.**

The fourth quarter 1997 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79), will be available in March. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Elvira Marinelli (613-951-3350, fax: 613-951-2848; Internet: [marielv@statcan.ca](mailto:marielv@statcan.ca)), Client Services Unit, Prices Division. ■

## Waste Management Industry Survey: Business sector

1995 (preliminary)

Results are now available from the 1995 Waste Management Industry Survey: Business sector. Operating revenues of private companies providing waste management services totalled \$2.6 billion in 1995, while operating expenditures totalled \$2.2 billion. These businesses directly employed 19,015 persons in waste management service activities.

This survey covered firms with revenues of at least \$500,000 or five or more employees. Administrative data were used for the smaller firms. Along with financial and employment data, the survey collected information on waste and recyclable materials collection and transport, preparation of materials for recycling or reuse and the operation of disposal facilities such as landfills and incinerators.

Data on the quantity of waste and financial statistics by activity will be available in early 1998.

For further information on this release, contact the Information Officer (613-951-3640; fax: 613-951-0634), National Accounts and Environment Division. ■

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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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**Infomat — A weekly review**, December 19, 1997  
**Catalogue number 11-002-XPE**  
(Canada: \$4/\$145; outside Canada: US\$4/US\$145).

**Primary iron and steel**, October 1997  
**Catalogue number 41-001-XPB**  
(Canada: \$7/\$62; outside Canada: US\$7/US\$62).

**The Consumer Price Index**, November 1997  
**Catalogue number 62-001-XPB**  
(Canada: \$11/\$103; outside Canada: US\$11/US\$103).

**Farm Input Price Index**, Third Quarter 1997  
**Catalogue number 62-004-XPB**  
(Canada: \$25/\$83; outside Canada: US\$25/US\$83).

**Canada's culture, heritage and identity: A statistical perspective**, 1997  
**Catalogue number 87-211-XPB**  
(Canada: \$31; outside Canada: US\$31).

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### All prices exclude sales tax.

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## RELEASE DATES

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**December 22 to December 24**  
(Release dates are subject to change.)

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<b>Release date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Reference period</b>
22	<b>Canada's International transactions in securities</b>	October 1997
22	<b>Employment Insurance</b>	October 1997
22	<b>Income distribution by size in Canada</b>	1996
23	<b>Employment, earnings and hours</b>	October 1997
24	<b>Real gross domestic product at factor cost by industry</b>	October 1997

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