



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, February 26, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Characteristics of international travellers, third quarter 1996**
Canadian travellers spent 46 million nights in other countries in the third quarter of 1996, up 2.8% from the previous summer. This was the first increase since the third quarter of 1991.

2
- **Private and public investment, 1997**
Business and government plan to invest \$104.3 billion in plant and equipment in 1997, a 4.4 % increase from 1996, and the second strongest growth rate since 1993. This growth comes from investment in machinery and equipment which is expected to increase by 7.6% over 1996.

4

OTHER RELEASES

Crude oil and natural gas, 1996 and December 1996 8

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED **9**



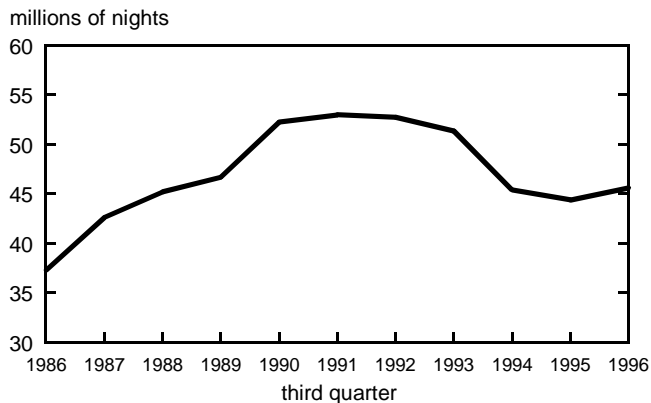
MAJOR RELEASES

Characteristics of international travellers

Third quarter 1996

Canadian travellers spent 46 million nights in other countries in the third quarter of 1996, up 2.8% from the previous summer. This was the first increase since the third quarter of 1991, when they stayed a record 53 million nights outside Canada. That summer, when the Canadian dollar was worth US\$0.87, overnight trips abroad by Canadians peaked at 7.8 million, compared with 6.1 million during the summer of 1996.

Canadians spend fewer nights abroad than in the early 1990s



Over the last ten years, the length of overnight trips by Canadians outside the country during the summer has shortened. In 1996, overnight trips to the United States averaged 4.9 nights, compared with almost 5.5 nights in 1986.

Note to readers

Summer is the third quarter of the year, (i.e., July, August and September).

Data are not seasonally adjusted. Comparisons are made to the third quarter of previous years.

The decrease in the duration of trips overseas over the same period was even greater. During the summer of 1986, Canadians spent an average of 26 nights overseas as opposed to 22 nights in 1996.

Canadians stayed closer to home when travelling in the United States last summer

During the summer months, Canadians travelling in the United States chose to stay closer to their home province. In the third quarter of 1996, nine of the ten states bordering Canada were among those most visited by Canadians for at least one night.

Almost 21% of overnight trips by Canadians to the United States (1.1 million) included a visit of one or more nights to New York State. Ontarians made more than 675,000 visits of at least one night to the neighbouring state of New York, twice as many as the residents of Quebec (336,000).

Meanwhile, an overnight stay in Washington State was on the itinerary of one in seven overnight trips Canadian travellers made to the United States last summer. British Columbians made 612,000 of those 742,000 trips.

Although Canadians made numerous overnight visits to bordering states, their stays were short (2.9 nights on average). In contrast, Florida, the most popular winter destination of Canadians, ranked 13th with 213,000 overnight summer visits. However, with an average visit of more than 10 nights, Canadians spent the third greatest number of nights of any state in Florida.

Ten most visited states by Canadians

Third quarter 1996

	Number of overnight visits '000
New York	1,064
Washington	742
Michigan	487
Maine	445
Vermont	333
Montana	269
Minnesota	254
Massachusetts	236
New Hampshire	225
North Dakota	218

	Number of visit-nights '000
New York	2,837
Washington	2,270
Florida	2,191
Michigan	1,513
California	1,489
Maine	1,451
Massachusetts	1,015
Vermont	975
Montana	779
New Jersey	752

Canadians made fewer trips overseas than to the United States but stayed longer

Canadians make fewer trips overseas than to the United States, mostly because of the greater

distance and higher costs involved. In the third quarter of 1996, only 15% of the 6.1 million overnight trips Canadians made outside the country were to overseas destinations.

However, Canadians' overseas trips are longer than their overnight trips south of the border. During the summer of 1996, 94% of all trips overseas lasted at least one week, compared with 25% of all overnight trips to the United States. Overall, Canadian travellers spent 44% of their nights outside Canada in countries other than the United States during the summer of 1996.

Europe was by far the continent where Canadians spent most of their nights overseas (65%). The most popular country with Canadians (other than the United States) remained the United Kingdom. Canadians made 284,000 overnight visits to that country, the same number as during the previous summer. Overnight visits to France, which ranked second with 178,000, increased by 15% over the same period.

Various statistical profiles and microdata files of characteristics of international travellers for the second and third quarters of 1996 are now available on request.

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

Private and public investment

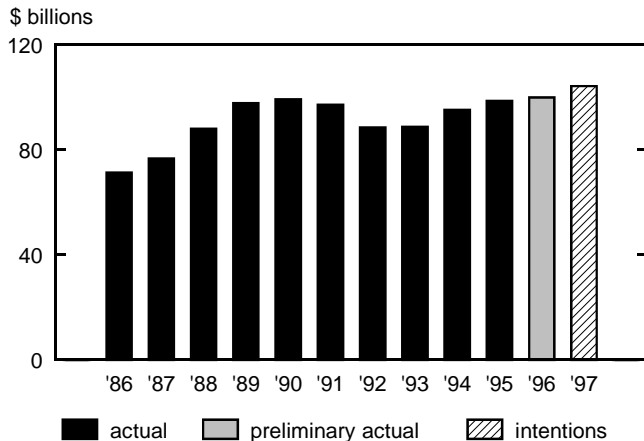
1997 intentions

Business and government plan to invest \$104.3 billion in plant and equipment in 1997, a 4.4 % increase from 1996, and the second strongest growth rate since 1993. This growth comes from investment in machinery and equipment which is expected to increase by 7.6% over 1996.

Lower interest rates, higher profits and increased capacity use are providing a positive investment climate for manufacturing companies. The investment drive in technologically advanced machinery and equipment continues, helping Canadian competitiveness in the global market.

Leasing companies and cable and telephone companies also display strong investment. The growth rate in non-residential construction has been dampened by the spending restraints of federal and provincial governments.

Spending to continue to grow in plant and equipment



Manufacturing companies maintain investment momentum

Investment by manufacturing companies in machinery and equipment is anticipated to increase 10.1% in 1997, led by producers of chemicals, pulp and paper and transportation equipment. The planned increase of \$556 million in the chemical industries is due to a combination of new projects and major expansions.

Alberta introduced a machinery and equipment tax rebate program that is expected to stimulate capital spending. In 1997, Alberta represents 60% of the increased investment by chemicals manufacturers.

Significant investment in machinery and equipment is planned in the paper and allied products industries (\$463 million), transportation equipment industries (\$299 million) and primary metals (\$180 million).

Leasing companies lead growth in machinery and equipment

Investment by leasing companies in cars and trucks is expected to reach \$8.7 billion in 1997, a significant increase of \$2.1 billion. Ontario leads with 40% of the growth followed by Quebec (+23%) and Alberta (+16%). Since 1993, leasing companies have more than doubled their investment, reflecting the changing consumer market.

Cable and telephone companies continue investing

Cable and telephone companies plan total investment of \$5.5 billion in 1997, a 19.4 % increase over 1996. This reflects the continuing competition between the two technologies as well as investments made by new firms in the industry. Ontario accounts for almost half of the increase.

Housing investment rebounding

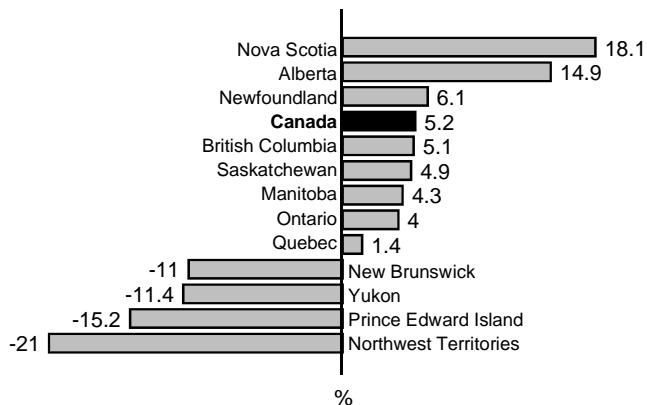
Investment in residential housing is expected to increase 7.7% in 1997 and reach \$34 billion. Similar growth in 1996 followed the trough in 1995 — the lowest level since 1986. This rebound reflects low mortgage rates and stronger demand for new housing. Alberta and Ontario will lead the way with expected increases of 12.8% and 10.4% respectively.

The latest Building and Demolitions Permit Monthly Survey, which provides an early indication of future building activity, also shows comparable growth for residential construction.

Growth in Nova Scotia and Alberta outpace other provinces

Nova Scotia and Alberta are expecting 18.1% and 14.9% growth in total investment respectively. In both provinces, a large portion of the increase comes from manufacturers and petroleum firms. The only other province expecting investment growth above the national average of 5.2% is Newfoundland (+6.1%).

**Growth in investment in Nova Scotia and Alberta
outpace other provinces**



Available on CANSIM: matrices 3101-3135.

*Private and public investment in Canada, intentions 1997 (61-205-XPB, \$45) will be available shortly. It will feature an article titled "Sensitivity of capital expenditures to price variations in the petroleum and natural gas industry, 1986-1995". See *How to order publications*.*

For further information on this release, contact Gilbert Paquette (613-951-9818; 1-800-571-0494; Internet: gilbert@statcan.ca). For analytical information; contact Justin Lacroix (613-951-2589; Internet: lacrjus@statcan.ca) or Mychèle Gagnon (613-951-2593; Internet: gagnmyc@statcan.ca), Investment and Capital Stock Division. □

Capital spending intentions of private and public organizations¹

	Capital expenditures			1996 preliminary actual to 1997 intentions	1995 actual to 1996 preliminary actual
	Construc- tion	Machinery and equipment	Total		
	\$ millions			% change	
Canada¹					
1995	76,391.3	51,411.5	127,802.8		
1996	76,076.6	55,329.0	131,405.6		
1997	78,698.4	59,554.6	138,253.0	5.2	2.8
Newfoundland					
1995	2,271.1	557.6	2,828.7		
1996	1,836.0	478.5	2,314.6		
1997	1,987.8	466.8	2,454.6	6.1	-18.2
Prince Edward Island					
1995	363.6	155.2	518.8		
1996	364.1	148.0	512.1		
1997	307.3	126.9	434.2	-15.2	-1.3
Nova Scotia					
1995	1,813.4	1,099.8	2,913.3		
1996	1,826.3	1,175.4	3,001.6		
1997	1,845.0	1,700.2	3,545.1	18.1	3.0
New Brunswick					
1995	1,580.5	892.7	2,473.2		
1996	1,846.9	842.3	2,689.2		
1997	1,586.9	806.0	2,392.9	-11.0	8.7
Quebec					
1995	14,278.3	10,578.8	24,857.1		
1996	14,610.8	11,060.0	25,670.8		
1997	14,009.4	12,028.5	26,037.9	1.4	3.3
Ontario					
1995	22,949.2	22,893.5	45,842.7		
1996	23,555.0	25,305.3	48,860.3		
1997	24,537.0	26,275.4	50,812.3	4.0	6.6
Manitoba					
1995	2,161.2	1,586.4	3,747.6		
1996	2,313.6	1,769.7	4,083.3		
1997	2,252.5	2,006.3	4,258.8	4.3	9.0
Saskatchewan					
1995	2,843.8	1,890.6	4,734.4		
1996	3,134.9	2,204.6	5,339.5		
1997	3,130.3	2,472.8	5,603.1	4.9	12.8
Alberta					
1995	14,249.5	5,678.4	19,927.9		
1996	13,348.7	6,387.5	19,736.2		
1997	15,347.2	7,331.4	22,678.7	14.9	-1.0
British Columbia					
1995	13,321.2	5,905.5	19,226.7		
1996	12,766.4	5,804.7	18,571.1		
1997	13,295.3	6,222.0	19,517.4	5.1	-3.4
Yukon					
1995	237.0	63.2	300.1		
1996	187.7	49.8	237.4		
1997	163.5	46.9	210.5	-11.4	-20.9
Northwest Territories					
1995	322.5	109.7	432.3		
1996	286.3	103.2	389.6		
1997	236.2	71.4	307.6	-21.0	-9.9

¹ 1995 actual, followed by 1996 preliminary actual and then 1997 intentions.

Note: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

Capital spending intentions of private and public organizations¹

	1995 actual	1996 preliminary actual	1997 intentions	1996 preliminary actual to 1997 intentions	1995 actual to 1996 preliminary actual
	\$ millions			% change	
Total	127,802.8	131,405.6	138,253.0	5.2	2.8
Plant and equipment	98,617.0	99,885.2	104,298.8	4.4	1.3
Housing	29,185.8	31,520.4	33,954.2	7.7	8.0
Goods-producing industries	45,370.3	45,621.7	47,344.5	3.8	0.6
Services-producing industries	53,246.7	54,263.6	56,954.3	5.0	1.9
Divisions					
Agriculture	3,508.3	3,691.9	3,594.5	-2.6	5.2
Fishing and trapping	117.5	116.8	114.0	-2.4	-0.6
Logging and forestry	400.4	384.9	352.7	-8.3	-3.9
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	14,615.2	13,311.0	14,746.5	10.8	-8.9
Manufacturing	16,735.1	18,321.7	19,174.2	4.7	9.5
Construction	1,862.1	1,948.5	1,977.0	1.5	4.6
Transportation and storage	5,728.6	6,215.2	6,951.8	11.9	8.5
Communication and other utilities	13,260.0	13,644.2	14,201.0	4.1	2.9
Wholesale trade	2,434.5	2,815.9	3,266.4	16.0	15.7
Retail trade	3,213.5	2,779.0	2,629.5	-5.4	-13.5
Finance and insurance	8,455.0	9,246.4	11,915.5	28.9	9.4
Real estate operators	1,911.5	1,421.5	1,454.1	2.3	-25.6
Business services	1,871.8	2,088.1	1,990.5	-4.7	11.6
Government	14,112.1	13,124.9	12,274.1	-6.5	-7.0
Educational	3,030.5	2,630.3	2,639.0	0.3	-13.2
Health and social	2,145.4	2,116.2	1,684.4	-20.4	-1.4
Accommodation, food and beverage	767.6	1,033.2	800.0	-22.6	34.6
Other services	4,447.8	4,995.4	4,533.7	-9.2	12.3

¹ 1995 actual, followed by 1996 preliminary actual and then 1997 intentions.

Note: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.



OTHER RELEASES

Crude oil and natural gas

1996 and December 1996

In December, exports of crude oil and natural gas reached record levels. Natural gas exports rose 6.0% to 7 683.3 million cubic metres, while crude oil exports rose 10.9% to 6 171 100 cubic metres.

Continued rising exports to the United States led to a 5.6% increase in natural gas production for December 1996, and achieved a new record level of production. Crude oil production rose 3.4% compared with December 1995, the eighth consecutive monthly increase in 1996.

In 1996, natural gas and crude oil production posted solid advances. Natural gas production increased 3.6%, while production of natural gas rose 2.4%.

Exports of natural gas rose at a much slower rate in 1996 than before. Exports rose 2.0% in 1996, 10.8% in 1995, and 13.3% in 1994. This continued record export level was fueled by a growing demand from U.S. electric utilities and residential consumers. The recent moderation in export growth is due to capacity limitations on pipelines transporting natural gas to the United States, which have been operating near full capacity.

Crude oil exports rose a solid 6.3% to a record level in 1996. However, growth slowed from 1995 (+7.7%) and 1994 (+7.0%) levels. Low reserves and improving economic conditions in the United States continued to boost demand. Canadian crude oil has found a ready market in the United States, where a combination of reduced reliance on shipments from the Persian Gulf and declines in indigenous production has increased the demand for shipments from Canada.

Domestic sales of natural gas jumped 5.5% in 1996, to reach a record level. This increase was due to colder-than-normal temperatures in much of the country, and greater demand by electric utilities and the chemical industry.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 530 and 539.

The December 1996 issue of *Crude petroleum and natural gas production* (26-006-XPB, \$18/\$180) will be available in March. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact David Roeske (613-951-3563; Internet: roesdav@statcan.ca), Energy Section, Industry Division.

Crude oil and natural gas

	Dec. 1995	Dec. 1996	Dec. 1995 to Dec. 1996 % change
	'000 cubic metres		
Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons¹			
Production	9 777.8	10 114.1	3.4
Exports	5 563.6	6 171.1	10.9
Imports ²	2 511.9	3 334.3	32.7
Refinery receipts	6 991.9	7 839.8	12.1
	millions of cubic metres		
Natural gas³			
Marketable production	13 478.6	14 228.0	5.6
Exports	7 248.1	7 683.3	6.0
Canadian sales ⁴	7 703.0	7 840.3	1.8

	1995	1996	1995 to 1996 % change
	'000 cubic metres		
Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons¹			
Production	114 360.5	117 144.3	2.4
Exports	61 373.8	65 258.3	6.3
Imports ²	34 282.1	39 731.2	15.9
Refinery receipts	87 662.9	92 700.1	5.7
	millions of cubic metres		
Natural gas³			
Marketable production	148 205.0	153 516.6	3.6
Exports	71 149.7	80 715.3	2.0
Canadian sales ⁴	63 727.3	67 204.7	5.5

¹ Disposition may differ from production due to inventory change, industry own-use, etc.

² Crude oil received by Canadian refineries from foreign countries for processing. Data differs from International Trade Division estimates due to timing differences and the inclusion in "trade" of crude oil landed in Canada for future re-export.

³ Disposition may differ from production due to inventory change, usage as pipeline fuel, pipeline losses, line-pack fluctuations, etc.

⁴ Includes direct sales.

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Paper and allied products industries, 1994
Catalogue number 36-250-XPB
(Canada: \$38; United States: US\$46; other countries: US\$54).

Gas utilities, November 1996
Catalogue number 55-002-XPB
(Canada: \$16/\$160; United States: US\$20/US\$200; other countries: US\$23/US\$230).

Telephone statistics, December 1996
Catalogue number 56-002-XPB
(Canada: \$9/\$90; United States: US\$11/US\$108; other countries: US\$13/US\$126).

Energy statistics handbook, February 1997,
paper version
Catalogue number 57-601-UPB
(Canada: \$375; United States: US\$450; other countries: US\$525).

Energy statistics handbook, February 1997,
electronic version
Catalogue number 57-601-XDE
(Canada: \$275; United States: US\$330; other countries: US\$385).

Farm input price index, fourth quarter 1996
Catalogue number 62-004-XPB
(Canada: \$24/\$80; United States: US\$29/US\$96; other countries: US\$34/US\$112).

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 1997. Citation in newsprint, magazine, radio, and television reporting is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source. Any other reproduction is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source on all copies as follows: Statistics Canada, *The Daily*, catalogue 11-001E, along with date and page references.

How to order publications

Simplify your data search with *Statistics Canada Catalogue*, 1994 (11-204E, \$15; United States: US\$18; other countries: US\$21). Its keyword index will guide you to statistics on Canada's social and economic activity.

Order *The Daily* and other publications by phone:

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

In Canada and the United States call: **1-800-267-6677**
From other countries call: **1-613-951-7277**
Or fax your order to us: **1-613-951-1584**

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

To order a publication by mail write: Sales and Service, Marketing Division, Statistics Canada, Ottawa, K1A 0T6. Include a cheque or money order payable to Receiver General of Canada/Publications. Canadian customers add 7% GST.

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 or your telephone directory under Statistics Canada.

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