



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, March 11, 1997

For release at 8:30 a.m.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **New motor vehicle sales, January 1997** 2  
A decline in truck sales pulled down new motor vehicle sales 6.3% from December. However, 1997 started off better than 1996, with a 12.0% year-over-year sales gain in January.

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## OTHER RELEASES

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- Railway carloadings, January 1997 4
- Oils and fats, January 1997 4

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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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## MAJOR RELEASES

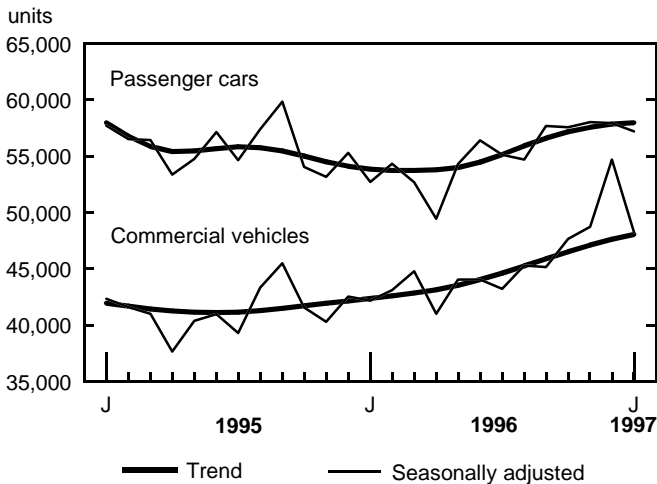
### New motor vehicle sales

January 1997

A decline in truck sales pulled down new motor vehicle sales 6.3% (seasonally adjusted) from December. However, 1997 started off better than 1996, with a 12.0% year-over-year sales gain in January.

Dealers sold 105,430 new vehicles (seasonally adjusted) in January: 57,180 passenger cars; and 48,250 trucks. While passenger car sales slipped 1.2% from December, sales of trucks plunged 11.7%. The decline in truck sales offset an 11.6% gain in December and follows five straight months of growth. Despite January's declines, both car and truck sales are following an upward trend.

Trend in car and truck sales on the rise



The Big Three automakers were most affected by the decline in truck sales. Their share of the truck market fell from 90% in December to 86% in January. This was their lowest share of the truck market since August 1995.

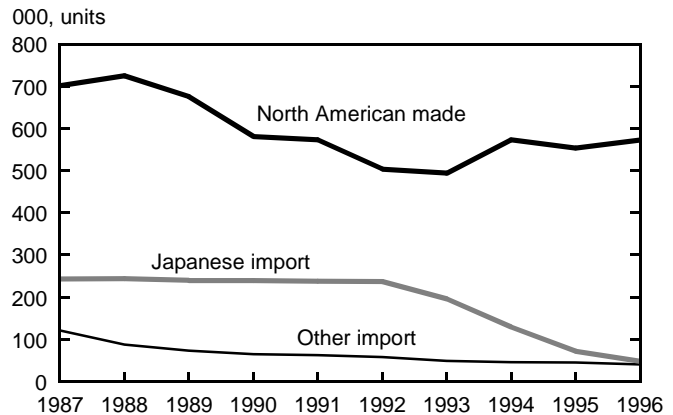
Despite the month-to-month decline in new vehicle sales, 1997 still started off better than the previous two years. About the same number of vehicles were sold this January compared with January 1994. This was the fourth year-over-year increase in vehicle sales in as

many months, with the gain coming from cars as well as trucks. However, in January, truck sales (+16.1%) were growing more rapidly than car sales (+8.7%).

### Foreign automakers increase presence in North America

Since the early 1990s, foreign automakers have built more vehicles in North America, bolstering the total volume of vehicles built in the region. As a result, sales of passenger cars built in Japan plunged 79.8% from 236,700 in 1992 to 47,900 in 1996. Sales of other imported cars declined 30.4% from 57,900 to 40,300 during the same period. For the first time, sales of cars built in other countries out-numbered sales of cars built in Japan three times last year (January, April and August).

Passenger car sales



Available on CANSIM: matrix 64.

The January 1997 issue of *New motor vehicle sales* (63-007-XPB, \$16/\$160) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Louise Généreux at (613) 951-3549. For analytical information, contact Sylvain Tremblay at (613) 951-4166; Internet: [lozimar@statcan.ca](mailto:lozimar@statcan.ca) Retail Trade Section, Industry Division. □

**New motor vehicle sales**

	Jan. 1996	Dec. 1996 <sup>r</sup>	Jan. 1997 <sup>p</sup>	Jan. 1996 to Jan. 1997	Dec. 1996 to Jan. 1997
seasonally adjusted					
				% change	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>	<b>94,151</b>	<b>112,520</b>	<b>105,429</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>-6.3</b>
Passenger cars	52,587	57,898	57,181	8.7	-1.2
North American <sup>1</sup>	45,811	50,664	50,021	9.2	-1.3
Imports	6,776	7,234	7,160	5.7	-1.0
Big Three automakers	34,276	35,036	34,112	-0.5	-2.6
Other automakers	18,311	22,862	23,069	26.0	0.9
Trucks, vans and buses	41,565	54,622	48,248	16.1	-11.7
	Jan. 1996	Jan. 1997 <sup>p</sup>	Jan. 1996 to Jan. 1997	Market share	
				Jan. 1996	Jan. 1997
unadjusted					
				%	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>	<b>73,765</b>	<b>80,157</b>	<b>8.7</b>		
Passenger cars	40,051	43,019	7.4		
North American <sup>1</sup>	35,825	38,516	7.5	89.4	89.5
Imports	4,226	4,503	6.6	10.6	10.5
Big Three automakers	28,367	27,552	-2.9	70.8	64.0
Other automakers	11,684	15,467	32.4	29.2	36.0
Trucks, vans and buses	33,714	37,138	10.2		
North American <sup>1</sup>	32,625	34,751	6.5	96.8	93.6
Imports	1,089	2,387	119.2	3.2	6.4

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>1</sup> Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.



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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Railway carloadings

January 1997

Carload freight (excluding intermodal traffic) loaded by railways in Canada totalled 16.8 million tonnes in January 1997, a decrease of 7.4% from January 1996. The carriers received an additional 1.8 million tonnes from United States connections during January.

Intermodal (piggyback) tonnage of 1.3 million tonnes represented an increase of 16.1% from the same month last year.

Total traffic (carload freight and intermodal traffic) decreased by 6.0% during the reference month.

Data for 1996 have been revised.

#### Available on CANSIM: matrix 1431.

The January 1997 issue of *Railway carloadings* (52-001-XPB, \$10/\$100) will be released shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information, contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2528, fax: 613-951-0579), Surface Transport Unit, Transportation Division. ■

### Oils and fats

January 1997

Production of all types of deodorized oils in January 1997 totalled 94 807 tonnes, an increase of 4.8% from 90 460 tonnes in December 1996.

Domestic sales of deodorized margarine oil totalled 12 808 tonnes; deodorized shortening oil totalled 28 765 tonnes; and deodorized salad oil totalled 26 286 tonnes in January 1997.

#### Available on CANSIM: matrix 185.

The January 1997 issue of *Oils and fats* (32-006-XPB, \$6/\$60) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511; *Internet: zylstra@statcan.ca*) Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

### Livestock statistics

Catalogue number 23-603-UPE

(Canada: \$90; United States: US\$108; other countries: US\$126).

### Science statistics, Vol. 21, no. 1

Catalogue number 88-001-XPB

(Canada: \$8/\$76; United States: US\$10/US\$92; other countries: US\$12/US\$107).

### Employment, earnings and hours, December 1996

Catalogue number 72-002-XPB

(Canada: \$31/\$310; United States: US\$38/US\$372; other countries: US\$44/US\$434).

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**MAJOR RELEASES**

- **Economic dependency profiles, 1992** 2  
Canadians who filed tax returns for the 1992 tax year received an average \$55.40 in transfer payments for every \$100 of employment income. This was an increase of almost 10% from 1991. In the ratio of transfer payments to employment income.
- **Monthly survey of manufacturing, April 1994** 6  
After two months of lackluster performance, the value of manufacturers' shipments grew to \$27.7 billion, up 1.7% in April after a 2.1% surge in March. The backlog of unfilled orders has increased by \$2.2 billion in the latest five months.
- **Industrial product price index, May 1994** 8  
Driven by higher prices for processed raw materials, the year-over-year change in prices for manufactured goods jumped to +4.0% in May, the highest rate among members of the G7.
- **Raw materials price index, May 1994** 12  
The index rose 3.2% in May. Crude oil prices climbed up 10.9% and were the major contributor to the change.

**DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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