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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, March 6, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

OTHER RELEASES

Canadian cancer statistics
1997

The special 10-year anniversary edition of *Canadian cancer statistics 1997* is released today. It represents a collaborative effort between Statistics Canada, the National Cancer Institute of Canada, Health Canada, the Canadian Cancer Society, and provincial and territorial cancer registries. This 71-page monograph contains estimates of cancer incidence and mortality for 1997, historical (actual and estimated) data from 1969 to 1997, and selected indicators on the burden of cancer. The special topic this year is a comparison of the burden of cancer in Canada in 1997 with that reported in the first edition in 1987.

Canadian cancer statistics 1997 (uncatalogued) is now available from the Canadian Cancer Society. It is also available on the internet at: *http://www.cancer.ca/stats/*.

MAJOR RELEASES

Cancel statistics

Cancer statistics
1997

An estimated 130,800 cases of cancer will be diagnosed in Canadians of all ages in 1997 and it is estimated that 60,700 will die from the disease.

This year's estimated level of cancer cases will be 36% higher than the 96,518 cases reported a decade ago, while the estimated number of deaths in 1997 represents a 25% increase from 1987 (48,460).

The total number of new cases and deaths for all cancers has risen largely as a result of a growing and aging population. Cancer is primarily a disease of older Canadians: 71% of new cases and 80% of deaths in 1997 will occur among those who are at least 60 years old.

Lung cancer will kill more individuals than any other form of cancer in 1997: 10,600 men and 6,300 women. A third of cancer deaths in men, and one-fifth in women, are due to lung cancer alone.

Prostate cancer will again be the most commonly diagnosed cancer among men in 1997, with an anticipated 19,800 new cases: more than double the level a decade ago. The most frequent diagnosis among women will be breast cancer (18,400 new cases).

Shifting patterns over past decade

Of all new cancer cases among men in 1997, prostate cancer ranks first, accounting for one-third, followed by lung cancer. Ten years ago, the ranking was reversed: lung cancer made up one-fifth of new cases, followed by prostate cancer.

Among women, new cases of breast cancer will continue to substantially exceed lung cancer, even though the increase of lung cancer cases outpaced that of breast cancer: 70% versus 50% since 1987. Ten years ago, the most commonly diagnosed cancers among women were breast, colorectal, and lung cancer, but in 1997, lung cancer will rank second.

Lung cancer remains the primary cause of cancer death among men, but prostate cancer has replaced colorectal cancer as the second leading cause of cancer death. Among women, lung cancer deaths almost doubled over the last decade and are now the leading cause of cancer deaths; 10 years ago, breast cancer ranked first.

Note to readers

Estimates were produced by modelling actual cancer incidence and mortality data by province for selected cancer sites. The all-cancer incidence estimates for 1997 exclude about 61,000 cases of non-melanoma skin cancer.

The cancer incidence rate is the number of new cases for every 100,000 persons. The mortality rate is the number of deaths per 100,000 persons. Rates used in this release were adjusted to take into account changes in the age distribution of the population over time.

Ten-year trend shows rise in some cancer rates, decline in others

Over the past decade, among women, the incidence rate for all cancers combined remained fairly stable as increasing rates for lung and breast cancer were offset by declining or stable rates for other forms. The rise in the breast cancer incidence rate coincides with increases in mammographic examinations in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Estimated and actual new cases and deaths for major cancer sites

Site	Number of new cases		Number of deaths	
	1987	1997*	1987	1997*
	Actual	Estimates	Actual	Estimates
Males				
All sites	50,576	70,200	26,649	32,600
Lung	10,721	12,500	8,733	10,600
Prostate	9,263	19,800	2,847	4,100
Colorectal	7,024	8,900	2,906	3,200
Bladder	3,345	3,400	784	910
Oral	2,035	2,200	662	710
Females				
All sites	45,942	60,600	21,811	28,100
Breast	12,396	18,400	4,350	5,100
Colorectal	6,692	7,500	2,836	2,700
Uterus	2,850	3,000	582	580
Lung	4,639	7,800	3,548	6,300
Ovary	1,878	2,200	1,152	1,350

* *Estimates.*
Note: *Actual new cases and deaths for 1987 are from the National Cancer Incidence Reporting System and the Canadian Vital Statistics Database.*
Source: *Health Statistics Division, Statistics Canada.*

For men, the overall cancer incidence rate has risen slightly. This reflects the sharp increase in the incidence of prostate cancer mainly attributable to improved medical tests for earlier detection of tumours such as the PSA (prostate specific antigen) test.

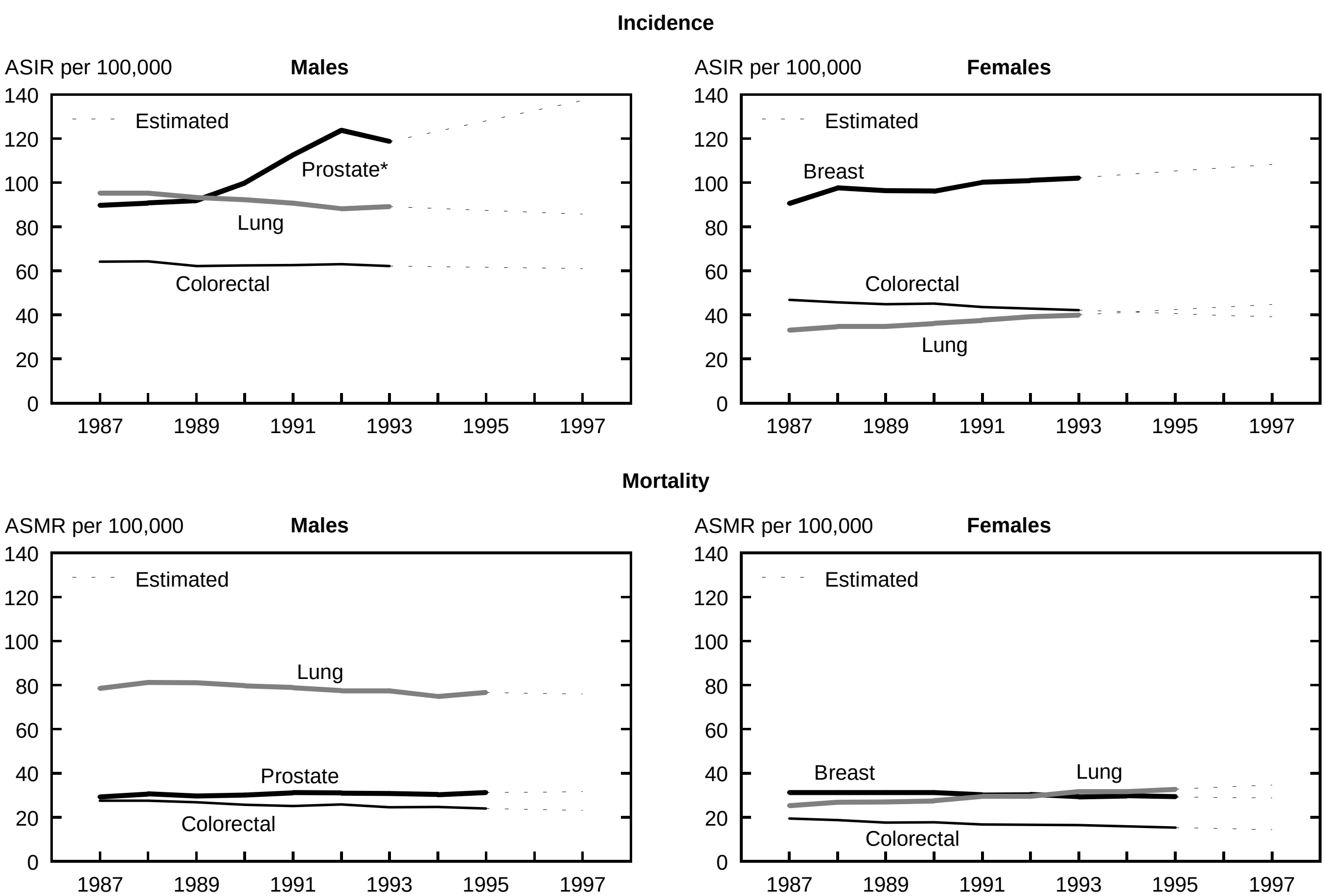
Women's overall cancer mortality rate remained relatively stable, as increases in the lung cancer mortality rate were counterbalanced by declining or stable rates for most other forms. In fact, if the lung cancer mortality rate had stayed the same, women's overall cancer mortality rate would have declined.

At the same time, men's overall cancer mortality rate declined moderately because of decreasing rates for colorectal, lung and other cancers.

And while an estimated 10,600 lung cancer deaths are expected this year among men, their lung cancer incidence and mortality rates have fallen over the past 10 years, likely reflecting the drop in smoking that began in the 1960s.

By contrast, among women, as a result of steady rate increases, lung cancer incidence and mortality rates are now a third higher than they were a decade ago. Lung cancer has the highest mortality rate of any cancer among women, but the lung cancer incidence rate is still less than half that of breast cancer.

Age-standardized incidence (ASIR) and mortality rates (ASMR) for selected cancer sites



** Current rates for prostate cancer are possibly underestimated because they do not fully account for the impact of PSA testing in the 1990s.*
Note: Rates are standardized to the age distribution of the 1991 Canadian population.
Source: Health Statistics Division, Statistics Canada.

What are the chances?

Prostate cancer, breast cancer, and lung cancer have much different prognoses. The relative extent to which the lifetime probability of developing a cancer exceeds the lifetime probability of dying of it reflects the prognosis for that particular cancer.

Lung cancer has a poor prognosis: the probability of developing and dying of the disease are close. Over a lifetime, 1 in 11 men will develop lung cancer, and almost as many (1 in 12) will die of the disease. For women, 1 in 21 will develop lung cancer and 1 in 24 will die of it.

For prostate cancer and breast cancer, the probability of developing the disease far exceeds the probability of dying of it, indicating a better prognosis. During their lifetime, 1 in 8 men will develop prostate cancer, but only 1 in 27 will die of it. Similarly, approximately 1 in 9 women is expected to develop breast cancer, but just 1 in 25 will die of it.

Limited copies of *Canadian cancer statistics 1997* are now available from the Canadian Cancer Society (Suite 200, 10 Alcorn Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M4V 3B1; phone 416-961-7223) or from you local office of the Canadian Cancer Society.

Canadian cancer statistics 1997 can be viewed on the Internet at this address: http://www.cancer.ca/stats/.

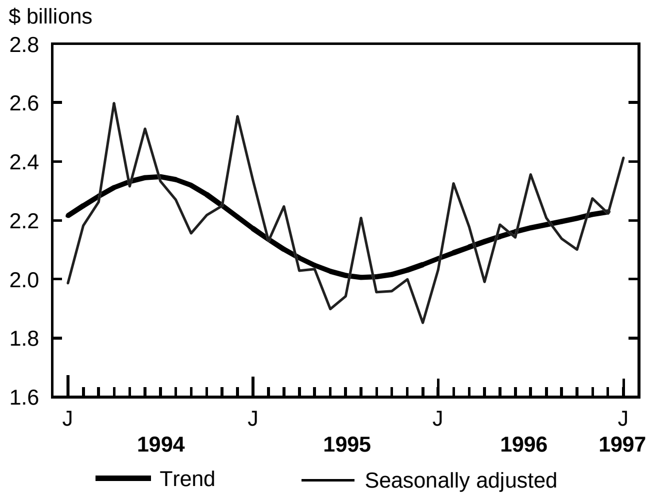
For further information on this release, contact Rod Riley (613-951-1641) or Judy Lee (613-951-1775), Health Statistics Division; Kerstin Ring or David Stones (416-961-7223), Canadian Cancer Society/ National Cancer Institute of Canada; or Sylvie Patry, (613-957-2988), Health Canada. ■

Building permits

January 1997

Home building intentions surged 10.6% to $1.6 billion in January in the wake of low mortgage rates and stronger demand for new and existing homes.

Total value of permits rose 8.5%



With this sharp increase in residential intentions — and a coincident gain in non-residential plans — the overall value of permits issued in January rose 8.5% from December to reach $2.4 billion. January's level for residential permits was 39.8% higher than the same month last year, reflecting a surge in consumer optimism in the state of the economy.

The Conference Board of Canada's latest survey, released in February, showed a rise in consumer confidence in the fourth quarter. In addition, 58% of respondents believed that the timing was right to make a major purchase, the highest level since 1987 and an increase of 9.4 percentage points from the third quarter.

Note to readers

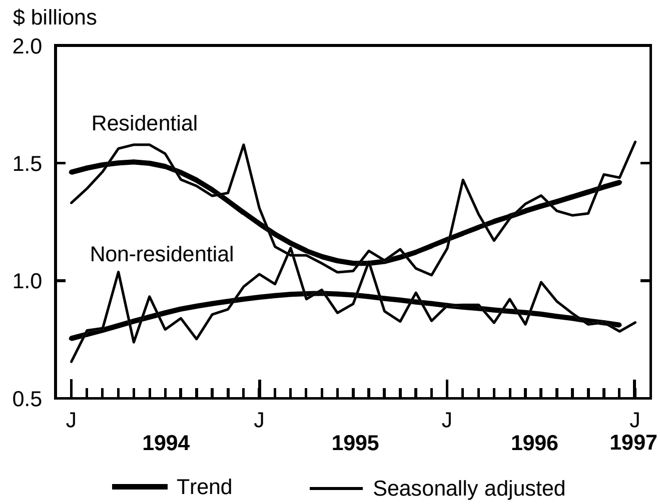
Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data which ease comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations.

The monthly Building Permits Survey covers 2,400 municipalities representing 93% of the population. It provides an early indication of building activity. The communities representing the other 7% of the population are very small, and their levels of building activity have little impact on the total.

The value of planned construction activities shown in this release excludes engineering projects (e.g., waterworks, sewers, culverts) and land.

The annual rate is a monthly figure that has been seasonally adjusted and multiplied by 12 to reflect annual levels.

Residential intentions surged 10.6%



Following a 4.6% drop in December, the value of non-residential permits rose 4.8% in January to $0.8 billion, the result of a marked increase in the institutional components of the sector. Despite the advance, the value of non-residential construction was 8.0% lower than in January last year, and remained 46.1% below the peak monthly average of $1.526 billion in 1989.

In Ontario, which led January's resurgence in the housing sector, the value of residential permits rose 25.1% on the strength of a sharp increase in the value of permits for both single and multi-family components.

Single-family permits led residential advance

The value of plans for single-family dwellings rose 15.0% to $1.2 billion in January — the highest level since November 1991. This was the fifth consecutive monthly increase for single-family dwellings, the key component of the residential sector.

Multi-family construction intentions fell 1.0% to $392 million, the second drop in a row. Despite this slight decrease, January's level was still 39.9% higher than in the same month last year.

The overall housing market continued to show higher activity since the beginning of 1996. The January resale housing market was 51.2% stronger than the corresponding period a year earlier, and slightly below (-0.5%) December's record level. The stronger demand for housing has translated into more building permits.

This is partly reflected in the latest tally of starts published by Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, which reported a rise of 7.8% in January to 145,000 units, the highest value since November 1994. This upward trend seems likely to continue, given the higher level of planned housing investment (as reported last week in the private and public investment for 1997). Furthermore, this suggests further growth in construction employment.

Provincially in January, in addition to Ontario's remarkable increase, Quebec posted a 16.6% increase in the value of its residential permits, almost entirely due to single-family (+21.6%) permits applications. Similarly, a robust 15.9% increase in Alberta was mainly the result of permits for single-family dwellings.

By contrast, British Colombia reported the largest decrease (-19.0%), almost entirely due to its multi-family component (-43.7%) and to a much lesser extent to single-family dwellings (-0.7%).

Institutional construction intentions buoyant in January

The value of institutional permits soared 31.5% in January to $209 million compared with the previous month. The exceptional performance posted by this component was due to construction projects of new schools. However, the planned construction investment in 1997 by the public sector was down for a second year in a row.

The commercial component recorded a slight increase (+0.4%), while the industrial component reported a 6.8% drop in January. The latter is consistent with spending cut-backs planned in building construction by the manufacturers, the key player in the industrial component.

The non-residential sector as a whole, excluding machinery and equipment and engineering projects, has shown signs of slowing down since May 1995. This pattern seems likely to continue, given the low levels of planned private and public investment for 1997.

Propelled by institutional projects, Ontario reported a 29.2% (to $332 million) increase in the value of non-residential permits in January. Institutional permits reached $111 million in Ontario, a level not seen since July 1995. Also notable was the monthly gain in non-residential construction intentions in Alberta (+23.3) where the industrial (+60.2%) and commercial (+44.6) components surged.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 80 (levels 3-7, 16-22, 24-32), 129, 137, 443, 987, 989-992, 994, 995 and 4073.

The January 1997 issue of *Building permits* (64-001-XPB, $24/$240) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications.*

The February 1997 *Building permits estimates* will be released in April. For further information, contact Joanne Bureau (613-951-9689; Internet: *burejoa@statcan.ca*). For analytical information, contact Nathalie Léveillé (613-951-2025; Internet: *levenat@statcan.ca*), Current Investment Indicators Section, Investment and Capital Stock Division. □

Value of building permits

	Dec. 1996	Jan. 1997	Dec. 1996 to Jan. 1997	Jan. 1996 to Jan. 1997
	seasonally adjusted			
	$ millions		% change	
Canada	**2,223**	**2,413**	**8.5**	**18.7**
Residential	1,438	1,590	10.6	39.8
Non-residential	785	823	4.8	-8.0
Newfoundland	20	33	64.2	200.9
Residential	16	28	82.3	264.5
Non-residential	5	5	6.3	53.4
Prince Edward Island	5	16	208.0	361.1
Residential	4	8	106.6	153.7
Non-residential	1	8	481.5	2,027.3
Nova Scotia	92	68	-25.9	66.7
Residential	68	57	-15.9	88.5
Non-residential	24	11	-54.5	2.9
New Brunswick	38	33	-12.0	-22.8
Residential	22	21	-0.9	22.1
Non-residential	16	12	-27.1	-54.1
Quebec	379	417	10.0	24.1
Residential	207	241	16.6	38.1
Non-residential	173	176	2.0	9.0
Ontario	797	1,007	26.4	16.9
Residential	540	675	25.1	45.5
Non-residential	257	332	29.2	-16.4
Manitoba	54	61	12.9	18.5
Residential	28	32	14.7	69.9
Non-residential	26	29	11.0	-11.2
Saskatchewan	47	41	-12.4	12.5
Residential	19	20	7.1	50.9
Non-residential	28	21	-25.7	-10.0
Alberta	296	350	18.2	58.8
Residential	204	236	15.9	110.7
Non-residential	92	114	23.3	5.1
British Columbia	488	380	-22.2	-10.4
Residential	328	266	-19.0	-8.9
Non-residential	160	114	-28.8	-13.6
Yukon	3	3	2.7	48.0
Residential	2	2	18.1	22.5
Non-residential	1	1	-22.9	213.7
Northwest Territories	4	2	-36.4	20.8
Residential	2	2	33.4	13.8
Non-residential	2	0	-89.2	182.3

Note: *Data may not add to totals due to rounding.*

■

OTHER RELEASES

Help-wanted Index

February 1997

The index that measures the number of help-wanted advertisements in newspapers rose for a fifth consecutive month. The index rose a further 1% in February to 97 (1991=100), its highest level since May 1995. Led by New Brunswick and Alberta, nine provinces recorded increases, while Newfoundland was unchanged. The index remained relatively flat between February and September 1996, but has since begun to show some strength. The growth in payroll employment observed in the last quarter of 1996 has confirmed the movement in the index.

In the Prairies the index increased 4% to 113 in February, bringing the total increase since September to 20.2%. The number of help-wanted advertisements rose in all three provinces. Saskatchewan has recorded rises in 10 of the last 11 months.

In Ontario the index advanced 2% to 103, bringing growth since September to 13.2%.

The index in Quebec grew by 2% to 87. Since August 1996, the index has remained in a narrow band (varying between 84 and 87).

The index in British Columbia posted its sixth consecutive increase, this month by 1%, to stand at 72. Since September 1996 the index has grown by 10.8%.

In the Atlantic provinces, the index advanced 5% to 108, its highest level since March 1991. Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick all posted gains.

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

Help-wanted Index
(1991=100)

	Feb. 1997	Jan. 1997	Feb. 1996 to Feb. 1997	Jan. 1997 to Feb. 1997
	seasonally adjusted			
			% change	
Canada	**97**	**96**	**10**	**1**
Atlantic Provinces	108	103	5	5
Newfoundland	81	81	5	0
Prince Edward Island	143	142	-14	1
Nova Scotia	104	102	9	2
New Brunswick	111	106	-6	5
Quebec	87	85	-5	2
Ontario	103	101	12	2
Prairies Provinces	113	109	31	4
Manitoba	127	122	23	4
Saskatchewan	111	109	22	2
Alberta	108	103	40	5
British Columbia	72	71	6	1

Available on CANSIM: matrix 105 (levels 8, 9 and 10)

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

Building permits

1996

Municipalities issued $26.2 billion in building permits in 1996, up 6.4% from the year before, as residential construction intentions rebounded from a severe slump. However, building permit levels in 1996 were nowhere near the record levels of 1989, when municipalities issued a total of $40 billion in permits.

In 1996, the value of building permits for the housing sector rose sharply compared with 1995, jumping 18.7% to $15.7 billion. However, this only partially offset a 24.7% slide in 1995. The housing sector's performance in 1996 was the result of historically low mortgage rates and stronger demand for new and existing homes. The highest sales in four years of new and existing homes reduced the backlog of unsold units, stimulating new housing construction in 1996. The upward trend displayed in the residential sector since August 1995 suggests further growth for the new-home market should mortgage rates and house prices remain relatively stable.

By contrast, the non-residential sector fell 8.1% in 1996 to $10.4 billion, on the heels of two straight annual increases. This downturn came mainly from a sharp drop in the institutional component, which fell 27.9% to $2.2 billion, the lowest level in 12 years. This was consistent with spending cutbacks announced by all levels of government. The industrial component also recorded a significant 6.5% decline in 1996, to $2.6 billion, suggesting a decrease in investment plans for building construction in those sectors in 1997. The declines posted by the industrial and institutional components, more than offset a slight 2.3% increase in the commercial component.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 80 (levels 3-7, 16-22 and 24-32), 129, 137, 443, 987, 989-992 and 4073.

The 1996 issue of *Building permits, annual summary* (64-203-XPB, $60) will be available in March 1997.

For detailed information on the release, contact Joanne Bureau (613-951-9689; Internet: *burejoa@statcan.ca*), Investment and Capital Stock Division. ■

Steel primary forms

Week ending March 1, 1997 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending March 1, 1997 totalled 294 870 tonnes, up 5.0% from the week-earlier (280 777 tonnes) and down 0.4% from the year-earlier (296 007 tonnes).

The cumulative total at the end of the week was 2 344 288 tonnes, a 0.3% increase from the same period in 1996 (2 337 995 tonnes).

For further information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827; Internet: *milsomg@statcan.ca*), Industry Division. ■

Egg production

January 1997

Egg production estimates for January 1997 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1145, 1146 and 5689-5691.

To order *Production and stocks of eggs and poultry* ($115/year), contact Julie Gordon (613-951-5039), Agriculture Division.

For further information on this release, contact Sandy Gielfeldt (613-951-2505), Livestock and Animal Product Section, Agriculture Division. ■

Residential telephone service

November 1996

Data are now available for the Residential Telephone Service Survey. Information in this microdata file refers to telephone service penetration rates in Canada's 10 provinces in November 1996.

To order the microdata file (56M0001XDB, $2,000), contact Michael Sivyer (613-951-4598; 1-800-461-9050), Special Surveys Division.

For further information on this release, contact Marc Hamel (613-951-2495), Special Surveys Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Cereals and oilseeds review, December 1996
Catalogue number 22-007-XPB
(Canada: $15/$144; United States: US$18/US$173; other countries: US$21/US$202).

Shipments of office furniture products, Semi annual period ended December 31, 1996
Catalogue number 35-006SXPB
(Canada: $14/$27; United States: US$17/US$33; other countries: US$20/US$38).

Labour force information, week ended February 15, 1997
Catalogue number 71-001-PPB
(Canada: $10/$100; United States: US$12/US$120; other countries: US$28/US$280).
Available at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, March 7. Release available on the Internet at www.statcan.ca at 7:00 a.m.

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.

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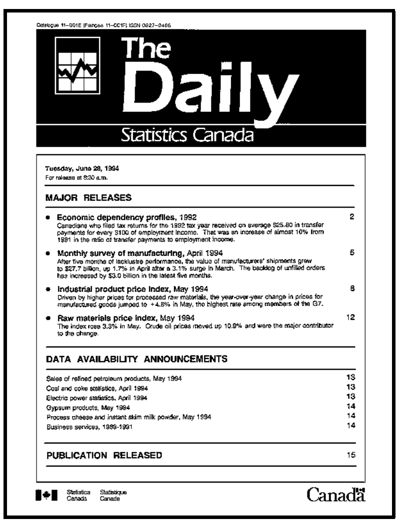

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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, June 28, 1994
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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Economic dependency profiles,** 1992 — 2
  Canadians who filed tax returns for the 1992 tax year received on average $25.80 in transfer payments for every $100 of employment income. That was an increase of almost 10% from 1991 in the ratio of transfer payments to employment income.
- **Monthly survey of manufacturing,** April 1994 — 5
  After five months of lacklustre performance, the value of manufacturers' shipments grew to $27.7 billion, up 1.7% in April after a 3.1% surge in March. The backlog of unfilled orders has increased by $3.0 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 +4.6% in May, the highest rate among members of the G7.
- **Raw materials price index,** May 1994 — 12
  The index rose 3.3% in May. Crude oil prices moved up 10.9% and were the major contributor to the change.

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