

Statistics Canada

Thursday, April 24, 1997

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

OTHER RELEASES

Production and consumption of eggs, poultry and meat, 1996

Steel primary forms, week ending April 19, 1997

Railway carloadings, February 1997

School board revenues and expenditures, 1900 to 1994

2

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

4

Employment, earnings and hours

February 1997

Estimates from the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours, scheduled for release today, have been rescheduled for Tuesday, May 6. Additional time is required, first, to correct a data-processing error that ocurred in the course of the current survey redesign and resulted in an overestimation of this survey's employment estimates for December and January, and second, to assess the impact of recent improvements in the survey's coverage of payroll employment on seasonally adjusted estimates.

For further information, contact Peter Lys (613-951-4071), Labour Division.





■ End of release

OTHER RELEASES

Production and consumption of eggs, poultry and meat

1996

After a 16-year downward trend, per capita consumption of eggs increased 4.2% in 1996 from a year earlier. Rising imports of processed eggs pushed egg consumption to 15 dozen per person in 1996.

Egg production increased 5.2% since 1990 reaching 490 million dozen. Canadian producers received \$640.2 million from the sale of eggs in 1996, a 9.5% increase from the previous year and the largest annual increase since 1988. Higher production and stronger prices for table eggs were responsible for the increase in cash receipts.

Poultry meat production reached a record 892 195 tonnes in 1996, a 3.4% increase from a year earlier. Chicken production, which accounts for 81% of poultry meat production, increased 3.7% after remaining stable over the two previous years. Turkey production increased 2.4% from 1995. Canadian producers received \$1.5 billion from the sale of poultry meat in 1996, a 17.7% increase from the previous year. Higher production and a jump in the average annual prices were responsible for this increase.

Total meat consumption per person decreased in 1996 despite a slight increase in poultry meat consumption. Consumption of meat continued a 20-year downward trend, reaching a record low of 89.4 kg. per capita in 1996. In comparison with 1995, consumption of red meat declined while poultry meat consumption increased slightly. The long-term trend over the last 20 years has seen a gradual decrease in red meat consumption and an increase in poultry meat consumption. The beef herd liquidation that began in the summer of 1996 resulted in an increase in total beef supply. However, increased exports more than offset the decline in per capita domestic consumption.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1136, 1137, 1139-1141, and 1144.

The annual publication *Production of poultry and eggs* (23-202-XPB, \$38), will be available shortly. To order the publication, contact Julie Gordon (613-951-5039).

For further information on this release, contact Conrad Ogrodnik (613-951-2860), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division.

Steel primary forms

Week ending April 19, 1997 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending April 19, 1997, totalled 287 160 tonnes, down 2.0% from the week-earlier 292 939 tonnes and up 3.5% from the year-earlier 277 421 tonnes. The cumulative total at the end of the week was 4 414 468 tonnes, a 0.3% increase compared with 4 400 018 tonnes for the same period in 1996.

For further information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827; Internet: milsomg@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Railway carloadings

February 1997

Carload freight (excluding intermodal traffic) loaded by railways in Canada totalled 18.7 million tonnes in February, an increase of 3.5% from a year earlier. The carriers received an additional 1.8 million tonnes from U.S. connections in February.

Intermodal (piggyback) tonnage of 1.4 million tonnes represented an increase of 15.0% from the comparable month last year. The year-to-date figures show an increase of 16.0%.

Total traffic, consisting of carload freight and intermodal traffic, increased by 4.2% during the reference month bringing the year-to-date total to 38.2 million tonnes, a 0.3% decrease from the previous year. Receipts from U.S. connections increased 10.7% during the same period.

Cumulative data for 1997 and 1996 have been revised.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 1431.

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

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

School board revenues and expenditures 1900 to 1994

After recording the smallest increase (+1.2% in 1993) in more than five decades, school board spending was up 1.7% in 1994, reaching \$31.1 billion.

School boards consistently account for about 55% of all education expenditures. They employ over three-quarters of full-time teachers and provide education to 80% of full-time students.

Approximately 6 out of 10 total school board dollars go to teachers' salaries.

Provincial governments and local taxation provide roughly 96% of direct funding to school boards.

Data from 1900 to 1994 are now available for school board revenues and expenditures.

Available on CANSIM: tables 00590301, 00590302 and 00590303.

For further information, contact Claudio Pagliarello (613-951-1508), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

General review of the mineral industries, 1995 Catalogue number 26-201-XPB

(Canada: \$25; United States: US\$25; other countries: US\$25).

Wholesale trade, February 1997 Catalogue number 63-008-XPB

(Canada: \$19/\$186; United States: US\$19/US\$186; other countries: US\$19/US\$186).

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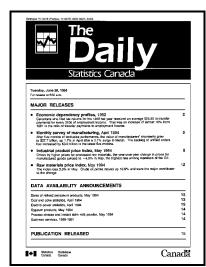
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