Catalogue 11-001E (Français 11-001F) ISSN 0827-0465

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, July 31, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

OTHER RELEASES

(continued on following page)

Family income
1995

The data on family income, which were derived from 1995 income tax returns (filed in the spring of 1996), are a unique source of information on small areas and are ideal for supporting market analyses and policy decisions.

The data are available by province and territory, city, town, census metropolitan area and census division, as well as by forward sortation area (first three characters of the postal code) and letter carrier walk. Data are available for over 26,000 postal areas.

Husband-wife families in the community of Westmount, Quebec, had the highest median total income in Canada ($102,500), followed by Hampstead, Quebec ($95,500), and Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, and Mont-Royal, Quebec, tied at third ($88,700). Lone-parent families in Sillery, Quebec, had the highest median total income ($44,600), followed by Mont-Royal ($42,900) and Beaconsfield, Quebec ($41,800).

For further information on this release, contact Client Services (613-951-9720; fax: 613-951-4745; Internet:*saadinfo@statcan.ca*), Small Area and Administrative Data Division.

OTHER RELEASES – concluded

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

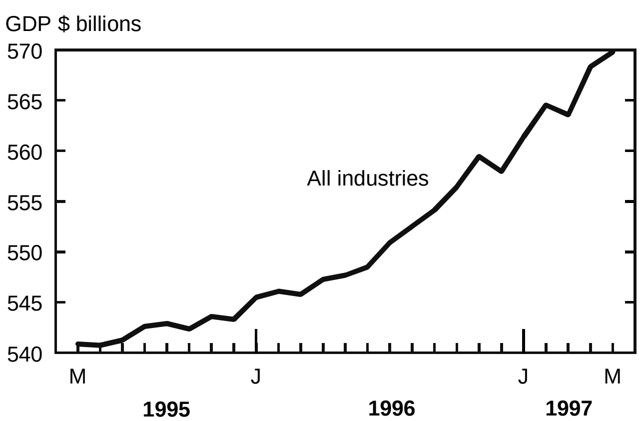
MAJOR RELEASES

Real gross domestic product at factor cost by industry

May 1997

A widespread expansion of economic activity continued into May. Gross domestic product (GDP) at factor cost, which has been in high gear since the beginning of the year, rose a further 0.3% in May. The rapidly improving economic situation spurred a 0.9% increase in employment from the first to the second quarter of 1997, while production in April and May averaged 1.0% above its first quarter level.

Economic expansion continues



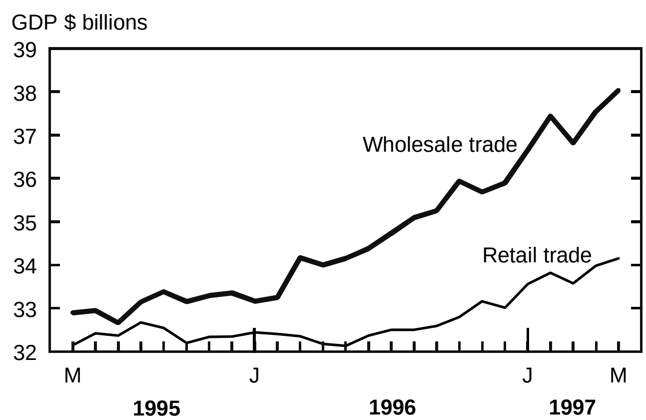
Services-producing industries continued to progress at a good pace with wholesale trade and community, business and personal services contributing almost two-thirds of the overall increase in May. Gains in transportation and storage services, communications and retail trade were also sizeable. After outpacing services industries since January, output in goods-producing industries paused in May. Higher activity in construction and a small advance in manufacturing were mostly offset by declines in the mining sector and in forestry.

Good business for wholesalers

Wholesalers remained very active as their sales continued to climb in May. Wholesaling activity grew 1.3% in May after monthly increases of 2.0% or more in three of the previous four months. Sales of miscellaneous goods such as agricultural, industrial and household chemicals, farm supplies and paper products accounted for about 40% of the overall gain. Spending on agricultural implements rose at a strong pace once more, mirroring strength in imports as well as in domestic production.

> ***Note to readers***
>
> *GDP of an industry is the value added by labour and capital in transforming inputs purchased from other industries into output.*
>
> *Monthly GDP by industry is valued at 1986 prices. The estimates presented here are seasonally adjusted at annual rates.*

Wholesalers and retailers remain very active



Sales of computer and software packages rebounded somewhat after easing for two consecutive months. Even though wholesalers of motor vehicles and parts enjoyed a good month, overall sales of consumer goods slowed in May after surging in April.

Retailers stay busy

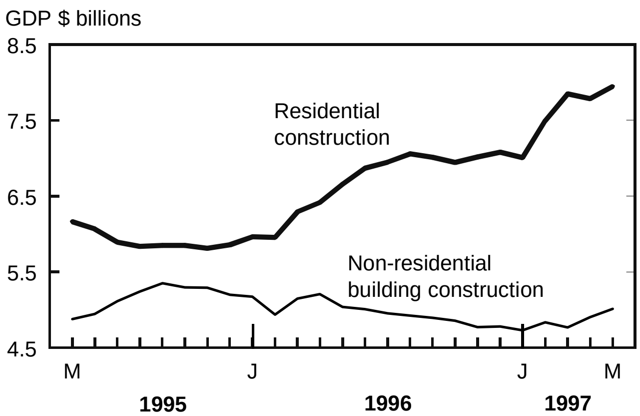
Retailing activity increased 0.5% in May, equal to its monthly pace of the previous 11 months. Motor vehicle dealers enjoyed another good month and contributed most to the advance. Low interest rates, pent-up demand and recent sustained growth in employment have all contributed to the sharp improvement in the number of new motor vehicles sold since last fall. During the first half of 1997, on average, the number of vehicles purchased was 12% higher than in 1996. However, on average, sales were still in recovery mode as the number of vehicles sold during the first six months of 1997 remained 13% below the peak of 1988.

An upward trend in sales by retailers of furniture and appliances, household furnishings and department stores continued into May.

Upward momentum persists in construction

Construction activity rose 0.8% in May. Except for January, construction has grown regularly over the last 12 months. In May, residential construction rebounded 2.1% after easing in April when construction of single dwellings flattened. Growth in the construction of single dwellings resumed in May and accounted for a large portion of the gain. Apartment construction also firmed up after remaining at about the same level for several months. The number of building permits, which climbed to 170,100 units (annual rate) in February, stabilized at around 156,000 units in March, April and May (a level 16% higher than in 1996). The pause in the number of building permits issued presaged lower dwelling starts in March, April and June.

Growth spreads to non-residential building projects

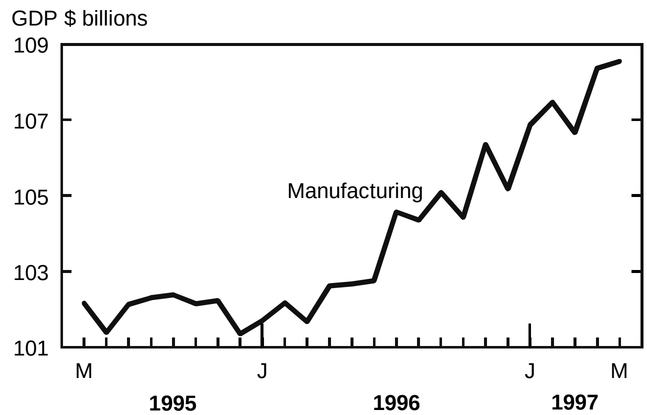


Activity on non-residential building projects rose 2.3% in May after increasing 2.9% in April. Although work on industrial projects picked up the most, construction of commercial and institutional buildings also improved over the last two months. The value of non-residential building permits issued in April and May points to a second consecutive quarterly gain in the second quarter, suggesting growth will continue. The results of the survey on capital spending intentions, published earlier this month by Statistics Canada, indicate that businesses and governments intend to invest considerably more in new buildings than they had planned earlier this year.

Manufacturers take a breather

Manufacturing production inched up 0.2% in May after surging 1.6% in April. Growth in manufacturing has been sporadic over the last year; nevertheless, output in May reached a level 5.7% higher than a year earlier.

Manufacturing output inches ahead



In May, increases in the production of electrical and electronic equipment, refined petroleum products, and higher activity in printing and publishing were offset by lower activity in several other industry groupings. In most of those cases, however, the drop was not enough to offset the gain in April. Fabrication of transportation equipment, notably motor vehicle parts, along with food and wood products declined the most.

Fabrication of electrical and electronic equipment jumped 4.0% in May on the heels of a 1.8% advance in April. A sharp improvement in the production of office machinery dominated the advance again in May. Manufacturers of office machinery reduced output significantly in 1996 when their shipments abroad slumped. Exports have been strengthening since late 1996, however, and manufacturers took advantage of the situation to reduce their stocks during the first three months of 1997. In April and May, producers raised output sharply as new orders remained relatively high compared with the second half of 1996. Some of the increased production accumulated in inventories during these two months.

Manufacturers of electronic equipment increased output 2.8% in May after three months of lower production, notably of telecommunications equipment and electronic parts. Despite the rebound, production in May was still lower than its level at the beginning of the year.

Elsewhere, refiners of petroleum products raised output 4.5%, reflecting mostly higher production of light fuel oil, which was low during the first four months of 1997. Wood production dropped 1.1% in May as activity in sawmills, down 1.7%, continued to seesaw. Sawmill operators have benefited from robust construction in Canada, but they have also suffered from slack exports. Exports of lumber improved somewhat in May but remained below their 1996 level.

Mining sector retreats

Output in the mining sector dropped 0.9% in May due mostly to lower production of crude oil. A closure for maintenance and expansion work that lasted most of the month accounted for the drop in crude oil production. Crude oil production also fell in March and April with the rapid decline in the price of crude petroleum. After jumping in April, drilling activity receded somewhat in May. Despite the drop, drilling activity remained very high. Results so far this year are consistent with the most recent survey on capital spending intentions, which points to strong growth this year. Higher production of coal, potash and, to a lesser extent, non-ferrous metals moderated the decline in the mining sector.

Other industries

The housing resale market remained hesitant. After recovering some of the previous month's losses in April, housing resales fell back in May, restraining growth in the financial and related services industry. Preliminary data indicate that housing resales dropped again in June.

Community, business and personal services rose 0.6% in May, led by a gain in amusement and recreational services. Higher sales by lottery corporations were mainly responsible for the advance.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 4670-4674.

The May 1997 issue of *Gross domestic product by industry* (15-001-XPB, $15/$145) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information, contact Michel Girard (613-951-9145), Industry Measures and Analysis Division. □

Gross domestic product at factor cost by industry, 1986 prices

	Dec. 1996r	Jan. 1997r	Feb. 1997r	Mar. 1997r	Apr. 1997r	May 1997p	Apr. 1997 to May 1997	May 1997	May 1996 to May 1997
	Seasonally adjusted								
	Month-to-month % change						$ change[1]	$ level[1]	% change
Total economy	**-0.3**	**0.6**	**0.6**	**-0.2**	**0.8**	**0.3**	**1,438**	**569,785**	**4.0**
Goods-producing industries	-0.9	0.8	0.6	-0.0	1.4	0.0	62	195,269	4.8
Services-producing industries	0.1	0.5	0.5	-0.3	0.6	0.4	1,376	374,516	3.6
Business sector	**-0.3**	**0.7**	**0.7**	**-0.2**	**1.0**	**0.3**	**1,550**	**480,672**	**5.1**
Goods	-0.9	0.8	0.6	-0.0	1.4	0.0	69	194,370	4.9
Agriculture	-0.2	-0.6	0.7	0.4	0.1	-0.2	-26	11,902	-0.6
Fishing and trapping	-0.3	-0.4	0.3	0.5	0.8	0.2	1	776	-0.8
Logging	-0.4	-0.9	-1.3	-4.4	4.6	-3.7	-95	2,515	-7.4
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	0.7	-1.7	1.2	0.1	2.3	-0.9	-232	25,037	6.4
Manufacturing	-1.1	1.6	0.5	-0.7	1.6	0.2	188	108,549	5.7
Construction	0.1	-0.3	2.8	1.1	0.5	0.8	233	28,215	6.5
Other utility industries	-4.3	2.2	-2.7	3.1	0.5	0.0	2	17,377	1.1
Services	0.1	0.7	0.7	-0.3	0.8	0.5	1,480	286,302	5.3
Transportation and storage	-0.5	-0.2	2.2	-0.4	0.4	0.8	199	25,376	5.8
Communications	0.3	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.1	0.6	158	25,987	7.8
Wholesale trade	0.6	2.1	2.1	-1.7	2.0	1.3	496	38,038	11.4
Retail trade	-0.5	1.7	0.8	-0.7	1.2	0.5	171	34,152	6.3
Finance, insurance and real estate	-0.0	0.1	-0.2	-0.2	0.7	0.0	24	90,722	2.7
Community, business and personal services	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.0	0.4	0.6	432	72,027	4.2
Non-business sector	**-0.2**	**0.1**	**-0.1**	**-0.0**	**-0.1**	**-0.1**	**-112**	**89,114**	**-1.5**
Goods	0.1	1.3	-1.3	1.4	-0.3	-0.8	-7	900	-3.3
Services	-0.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.0	-0.1	-0.1	-105	88,214	-1.5
Government services	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2	-58	30,706	-3.1
Community and personal	-0.2	0.2	0.0	-0.0	0.0	0.1	30	54,358	-0.5
Other services	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.6	0.0	-2.4	-77	3,150	-3.3
Other aggregations									
Industrial production	-1.2	1.1	0.3	-0.2	1.6	-0.0	-51	151,862	5.2
Non-durable manufacturing	-0.6	0.9	1.3	-0.9	1.0	-0.1	-44	46,201	5.5
Durable manufacturing	-1.5	2.1	0.0	-0.6	2.1	0.4	232	62,348	5.9

r Revised figures.
p Preliminary figures.
1 Millions of dollars at annual rate.

■

Family income

1995

Lone-parent families were twice as dependent on transfer payments as were husband-wife families in 1995. Transfer payments represented 31% of total income for lone-parent families in 1995 and 15% of total income for husband-wife families. These proportions were unchanged from 1994.

Social Assistance payments accounted for 42% of all transfer payments received by lone-parent families. This represented 13% of their total income. Husband-wife families were much less dependent on Social Assistance. This type of transfer payment amounted to only 7% of transfer payments and 1% of total income for husband-wife families. The largest component of transfer payments for husband-wife families was private pension income — 30% of total transfers representing 5% of their total income.

In 1995, lone-parent families received $10.3 billion in transfer payments and husband-wife families received $60.7 billion. This is a reasonable proportion given that there were about six times the number of husband-wife families as there were lone-parent families.

Components of transfer payments

1995

	Lone-parent families	Husband-wife families
	%	
Unemployment Insurance	8.8	15.1
Goods and services tax credit	4.9	2.5
Child Tax Benefits	13.6	6.3
Old Age Security	8.7	15.2
Canada/Quebec Pension Plan	9.9	18.3
Other pensions	7.7	29.8
Workers' Compensation	2.3	4.5
Social Assistance	41.9	6.8
Provincial Refundable Tax Credits/Quebec Family Allowance	2.2	1.5
Total transfers	**100.0**	**100.0**
Total transfers as a proportion of total income	30.7	15.4

Median total income for lone-parent families up $400

The median total income of lone-parent families in 1995 was $20,900, up $400 from 1994. This increase of 2.0% was slightly below the rate of inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index. Median total income of lone-parent families with one or two children increased by more than the Consumer Price Index, 2.5% and 2.4%, respectively. Only lone-parent families with three or more children experienced growth in their median total income below the rate of inflation.

Male lone-parent families had a median total income of $32,200, up 2.2% from 1994. In comparison, female lone-parent families saw their median total income rise by only 1.1% to $19,900.

Among CMAs, lone-parent families in Québec City had the highest median total income

Among provinces and territories, the median total income for lone-parent families in 1995 ranged from a low of $15,700 in Newfoundland to a high of $22,800 in Ontario. For census metropolitan areas (CMAs), Saint John, New Brunswick, had the lowest median total income at $16,400 while Québec City saw the highest median total income for lone-parent families at $25,400.

Median total income for husband-wife families surpasses inflation

Nationally, husband-wife families, including those living common law, saw a $1,200 increase in their median total income in 1995, up 2.5% to $49,000; this increase out-paced the inflation rate. Husband-wife families with children and those without children both stayed ahead of inflation; however, those with no

Definitions

Lone-parent families consist of one parent (male or female) with at least one child. Husband-wife families include married couples and those living common law, with or without children. "All families" refers to husband-wife and lone-parent families combined.

Total income includes: employment income, investment income, transfer payments, RRSP income and other income (net rental income, alimony, income from a limited partnership, and other taxable income not mentioned above).

Transfer payments include benefits from: private pensions, Unemployment Insurance, Old Age Security and net federal supplements, Canada and Quebec pension plans, Child Tax Benefit program, Quebec Family Allowance, GST credit, Workers' Compensation, Social Assistance and provincial Refundable Tax Credits (Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories).

A census metropolitan area (CMA) is a large urbanized core that has a degree of economic integration with surrounding urban areas. A CMA has a population of at least 100,000.

Source of data: 1995 taxation family file (T1FF) based on the 1995 T1 tax returns filed in the spring of 1996.

children saw the larger percentage increase (+3.3% compared with +2.4%).

Dual-earners

Among husband-wife families in which spouses reported employment income, 69% were dual earners, and their median employment income was $54,500. In 24% of these families, women contributed more to the family employment income than did their husbands. This proportion is unchanged from 1994. In husband-wife families where there was only one earner, males were the sole earners three-quarters of the time.

For further information about this release, contact Client Services (613-951-9720; fax: 613-951-4745; Internet: *saadinfo@statcan.ca*), Small Area and Administrative Data Division.

Median total income by number of children

	1995	1994	1994 to 1995
			% change
All families	**$44,300**	**$43,300**	**2.3**
Lone-parent families with 1 child	$20,500	$20,000	2.5
Lone-parent families with 2 children	$21,200	$20,700	2.4
Lone-parent families with 3 or more children	$21,700	$21,300	1.9
Lone-parent families (total)	$20,900	$20,500	2.0
Husband-wife families with no children	$40,500	$39,200	3.3
Husband-wife families with children	$55,600	$54,300	2.4
Husband-wife families (total)	$49,000	$47,800	2.5

Note: *Inflation rate in 1994-1995: CPI = 2.14%.*

□

Median total Income by family type

	Lone-parent families			Husband-wife families		
	1995	1994	1994 to 1995	1995	1994	1994 to 1995
			% change			% change
Newfoundland	$15,700	$15,600	0.6	$38,400	$37,700	1.9
Prince Edward Island	$20,100	$20,000	0.5	$42,900	$41,600	3.1
Nova Scotia	$17,500	$17,400	0.6	$43,700	$43,200	1.2
New Brunswick	$16,600	$16,100	3.1	$42,500	$41,700	1.9
Québec	$20,800	$20,300	2.5	$45,600	$44,700	2.0
Ontario	$22,800	$22,400	1.8	$53,300	$51,900	2.7
Manitoba	$18,700	$18,400	1.6	$45,500	$44,200	2.9
Saskatchewan	$17,900	$17,600	1.7	$45,100	$43,200	4.4
Alberta	$20,400	$19,500	4.6	$50,700	$50,000	1.4
British Columbia	$20,600	$20,200	2.0	$50,300	$49,200	2.2
Yukon Territory	$19,700	$19,700	0.0	$58,800	$55,900	5.2
Northwest Territories	$18,600	$18,200	2.2	$63,000	$62,400	1.0
Canada	**$20,900**	**$20,500**	**2.0**	**$49,000**	**$47,800**	**2.5**

Note: *Inflation rate in 1994-1995: CPI = 2.14%.*

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OTHER RELEASES

Steel primary forms

Week ending July 26, 1997 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending July 26, 1997, totalled 293 678 tonnes, up 15.6% from the week-earlier 253 940 tonnes and up 27.7% from the year-earlier 229 935 tonnes. The cumulative total at the end of the week was 8 612 490 tonnes, a 2.8% increase compared with 8 376 061 tonnes for the same period in 1996.

For further information on this release, contact Huguette Montcalm (613-951-9827; Internet: *monthug@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Stocks of frozen meat products

July 1997

Total frozen meat in cold storage at the opening of the first business day of July totalled 39,677 tonnes, up from 37,178 tonnes in June and 32,563 tonnes a year ago.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 87 and 9517-9525.

Available free on the Internet at *http://www.statcan.ca*. The menu path is "Products and Services," "Downloadable publications" and "Index of downloadable publications."

For further information on this release, contact Sandra Jarrett at (613-951-3847; Internet: *jarrsan@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

Cement

June 1997

Manufacturers shipped 1 255 478 tonnes of cement in June, up 1.3% from 1 239 900 tonnes in June 1996, and up 12.6% from 1 114 952 tonnes in May 1997.

Between January and June 1997, shipments totalled 4 798 270 tonnes, up 8.3% from 4 429 092 tonnes during the same period in 1996.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 92 and 122 (series 35).

The June 1997 issue of *Cement* (44-001-XPB, $7/$62) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Roland Joubert (613-951-3527; Internet: *rjouber@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Electric power statistics

May 1997

Net generation of electricity increased to 41 739 gigawatt hours (GW·h) in May, up 0.8% from May 1996. Exports decreased 7.4% to 3 122 GW·h, and imports increased from 577 GW·h to 650 GW·h.

The increase in generation came primarily from thermal conventional generators (+10.1% to 8 848 GW·h). Generation of hydro-electricity decreased 0.5% to 27 658 GW·h as low reservoir levels in British Columbia more than offset increased generation in Newfoundland. Generation from nuclear sources was down 5.9% to 5 234 GW·h.

Year-to-date net generation at the end of May totalled 237 676 GW·h, virtually unchanged from 1996. Year-to-date exports (16 270 GW·h) rose 4.0% and year-to-date imports (3 411 GW·h) rose 36.3% from a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3987-3999.

The May 1997 issue of *Electric power statistics* (57-001-XPB, $12/$114) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact André Lefebvre (613-951-3560; Internet: *alefeba@statcan.ca*), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Electric lamps

Second quarter 1997

Data on manufacturers' imports, production and inventories of electric lamps for the second quarter of 1997 are now available.

For further information on this release, contact Laurie Vincent (613-951-3523; Internet: *vincwil@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction, and Energy Division. ■

Coal and coke statistics

May 1997

Rising exports fuelled an increase in coal production in May. Coal production totalled 6 663 kilotonnes, up 2.4% from May 1996. Year-to-date production stood at 31 563 kilotonnes, down 2.0%.

Exports in May increased 16.4% from the same period a year earlier to 3 466 kilotonnes. Exports to Japan (the biggest consumer of Canadian coal) led the way with an increase of 21.3% to 1 783 kilotonnes during the same period. Year-to-date figures show exports of 14 396 kilotonnes, 1.3% above last year's level.

Coke production decreased to 262 kilotonnes in May, down 12.7% from May 1996.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 9.

The May 1997 issue of *Coal and coke statistics* (45-002-XPB, $12/$114) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact André Lefebvre 613-951-3560; Internet: *alefeba@statcan.ca*), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Energy consumption by manufacturing industries

1996 (preliminary)

Estimates of energy consumption by manufacturing industries in 1996 are now available. These estimates identify the various energy forms consumed at the national level by selected industries, in natural units (quantities) and on a heat content basis. A more detailed profile of energy consumption by manufacturing industries will be released in the fall.

For further information, or to order special tabulations, contact Serge Grenier (613-951-3566; Internet: *grenser@statcan.ca*), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

For-hire motor carriers of freight, all carriers

Third and fourth quarters 1996

During the last six months of 1996, the operating ratio (operating expenses divided by operating revenues) of for-hire motor carriers of freight, domiciled in Canada and earning annual operating revenues of $1 million or more, remained at the same level (0.94) compared with the last six months of 1995 (any ratio under 1.00 represents an operating profit). Operating revenues increased to $6.6 billion compared with $6.0 billion in the second half of 1995. Operating expenses also increased, reaching $6.2 billion from the previous year's figure of $5.7 billion. Users should note that 1995 data were revised.

These and other data from the Quarterly Motor Carriers of Freight Survey will appear in the *Surface and marine transport service bulletin* (50-002-XPB, $13/$83), which will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 144.

For further information on this release, contact Gilles Paré (613-951-2517; fax: 613-951-0579), Transportation Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Cereals and oilseeds review, May 1997
Catalogue number 22-007-XPB
(Canada: $15/$149; outside Canada: US$15/US$149).

Shipments of solid fuel burning heating products, Quarter ended June 1997
Catalogue number 25-002-XPB
(Canada: $8/$25; outside Canada: US$8/US$25).

Telephone statistics, May 1997
Catalogue number 56-002-XPB
(Canada: $10/$93; outside Canada: US$10/US$93).

Energy statistics handbook, July 1997 (paper version)
Catalogue number 57-601-UPB
(Canada: $387; outside Canada: US$387).

Energy statistics handbook, July 1997 (electronic version)
Catalogue number 57-601-XDE
(Canada: $284; outside Canada: US$285).

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