



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, August 13, 1997

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **New motor vehicle sales, June 1997** 2
 New motor vehicles sales fell 1.5% to 112,946 units (seasonally adjusted) in June. The stall in the momentum of what has been a good sales year may be short-lived as industry reports indicate a return to stronger sales in July.

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MAJOR RELEASES

New motor vehicle sales

June 1997

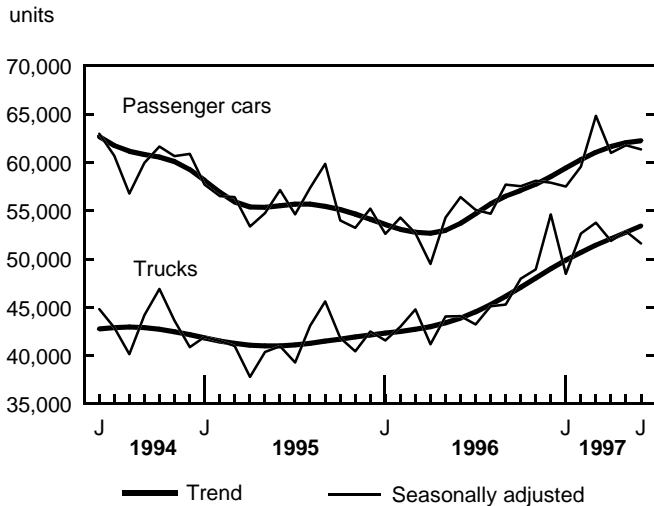
New motor vehicles sales fell 1.5% to 112,946 units (seasonally adjusted) in June. The decline was seen mostly in truck sales (-2.4%), although cars sales also dropped (-0.7%). The stall in the momentum of what has been a good sales year may be short-lived as industry reports indicate a return to stronger sales in July.

Note to readers

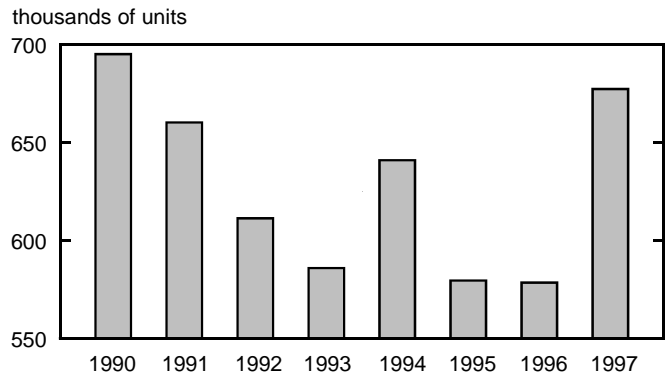
Passenger cars include those used for personal and commercial purposes (such as taxis and rental cars). Trucks include minivans, sport utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans, coaches and buses.

1996, bringing them to a level not seen since the first half of 1990. Both car and truck sales reflected the double-digit increase, recording gains of 14.5% and 20.3% respectively.

Car and truck sales on the rise



Semi-annual new motor vehicle sales



Compared with June 1996, 12.4% more vehicles rolled off the lots of new motor vehicle dealers (17.1% more trucks and 8.7% more cars). This was the ninth consecutive monthly year-over-year increase.

Strong sales in the first six months of 1997

New motor vehicles sales for the first half of the year were 17.1% higher than for the same period in

Double-digit growth in provincial sales

Sales across the country were up for the first six months with all provinces recording double-digit gains. Based on unadjusted data, the three largest provincial gains were recorded in Newfoundland (+26.6%), Alberta (+19.5%) and Ontario (+18.0%). The remaining provinces all recorded year-over-year sales increases between 10% and 14%. □

Semi-annual new motor vehicle sales by provinces

	1996	1997	1996 to 1997 %
Canada	613,293	711,551	16.0
Newfoundland	8,920	11,295	26.6
Prince Edward Island	2,153	2,440	13.3
Nova Scotia	18,160	20,628	13.6
New Brunswick	16,568	18,867	13.9
Quebec	159,051	180,745	13.6
Ontario	227,739	268,779	18.0
Manitoba	20,451	22,556	10.3
Saskatchewan	17,527	20,055	14.4
Alberta	68,203	81,514	19.5
British Columbia	74,521	84,672	13.6

Consumers spent an average of \$22,855 (before taxes) on passenger cars in June, up 4.2% from June 1996. Average spending on cars reflects consumers' choices of model and options, industry changes to standard features and changes in vehicle prices.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 64.

The June 1997 issue of *New motor vehicle sales* (63-007-XPB, \$17/165) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For analytical information, contact Doug Higgins (613-951-9824; Internet: higgdou@statcan.ca) Retail Trade Section, Distributive Trades Division. For further information on this release, contact Serge Dumouchel (613-951-2210). □

New motor vehicle sales

	June 1996	May 1997 ^r	June 1997 ^p	June 1996 to June 1997	May 1997 to June 1997
seasonally adjusted					
				% change	
New motor vehicles	100,496	114,627	112,946	12.4	-1.5
Passenger cars	56,410	61,778	61,342	8.7	-0.7
North American ¹	47,269	53,263	52,904	11.9	-0.7
Imports	9,141	8,515	8,438	-7.7	-0.9
Big Three automakers	34,627	36,995	36,595	5.7	-1.1
Other automakers	21,783	24,783	24,747	13.6	-0.1
Trucks, vans and buses	44,086	52,849	51,604	17.1	-2.4
	June 1996	June 1997 ^p	June 1996 to June 1997	Market share	
				June 1996	June 1997
unadjusted					
				%	
			% change		
Motor vehicles	122,206	136,002	11.3		
Passenger cars	70,508	76,375	8.3		
North American ¹	60,168	66,497	10.5	85.3	87.1
Imports	10,340	9,878	-4.5	14.7	12.9
Big Three automakers	45,616	48,447	6.2	64.7	63.4
Other automakers	24,892	27,928	12.2	35.3	36.6
Trucks, vans and buses	51,698	59,627	15.3		
North American ¹	49,788	55,112	10.7	96.3	92.4
Imports	1,910	4,515	136.4	3.7	7.6

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

¹ Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.



OTHER RELEASES

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard

June 1997

Oriented strandboard production totalled 433 905 cubic metres in June, a 6.4% increase from 407 718 (revised) cubic metres in June 1996. Particleboard production reached 198 933 cubic metres, up 22.6% from 162 291 (revised) cubic metres during the same period a year earlier. Fibreboard production in June was 57 066 cubic metres, up 40.6% from 40 577 (revised) cubic metres in June 1996.

Year-to-date oriented strandboard production totalled 2 737 522 cubic metres, up 26.0% from 2 173 432 (revised) cubic metres produced a year earlier. Year-to-date particleboard production was 1 111 724 cubic metres, up 10.5% from the 1 006 331 (revised) cubic metres from a year earlier. Year-to-date fibreboard production reached 308 975 cubic metres, up 48.8% from 207 692 (revised) cubic metres during the same period in 1996.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 31(series 2, 3 and 5) and 122 (series 8).

The June 1997 issue of *Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard* (36-003-XPB, \$7/\$62), will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Gilles Simard (613-951-3516; Internet: simales@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Dairy statistics

June and July 1997 (preliminary)

Monthly dairy statistics for June and July 1997 are now available. These data will be included in the April-June 1997 issue of *The dairy review* (23-001QXPB, \$36/\$119), which will be released shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information, contact Debbie Dupuis (1 800 465-1991; fax: 613-951-3868), Agriculture Division. ■

Passenger bus and urban transit

First and second quarters 1996

In the first half of 1996, 230 passenger bus companies provided 343 million kilometres of service and generated operating revenues of \$626 million.

Complete results for the first and second quarters of the Passenger Bus and Urban Transit Survey are now available. A more complete analysis of this data release will appear in the *Surface and marine transport service bulletin, Vol 13, no. 5* (50-002-XPB, \$13/\$83) which will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 347 (will be available shortly).

For further information on this release, contact Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; Internet: laroque@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Community profiles

1995

Community profiles, based on 1995 tax records filed in the spring of 1996, are now available. These data are ideal for supporting policy analysis as they provide a comprehensive picture of more than 5,000 communities across Canada.

The profile for each community consists of five tables: taxfilers and dependants, family characteristics, sources of income, labour force participation and economic dependency. Data on each community can be compared with similar provincial data to show how communities fit into the broader picture. These data can also be used to assess trends over the last four years. High standards of confidentiality ensure that no individual can be identified from these profiles.

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

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Consumer prices and price indexes,
January-March 1997
Catalogue number 62-010-XPB
(Canada: \$25/\$83; outside Canada: US\$25/US\$83).

Building permits, June 1997 (paper version)
Catalogue number 64-001-XPB
(Canada: \$25/\$248; outside Canada: US\$25/US\$248).

All prices exclude sales tax.

Building permits, June 1997 (microfiche version)
Catalogue number 64-001-XMB
(Canada: \$25/\$140; outside Canada: US\$25/US\$140).

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Catalogue 11-001E (P) (April 11-001E/11-001E/11-001E/11-001E)	
	
Statistics Canada	
Thursday, June 5, 1997 For release at 9:30 a.m.	
MAJOR RELEASES	
• Urban transit, 1995 Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1995, 68% of Canadians took an average of about six trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.	2
• Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996 Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was notably weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.	4
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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001E.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-H, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To receive *The Daily* from the Internet, send an E-mail message to listproc@statcan.ca. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

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