



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, August 28, 1997

For release at 8:30 a.m.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **International travel account, second quarter 1997** 2  
 Canada's international travel account balance improved in the second quarter of 1997, although it remained in a deficit position.
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### **A statistical portrait of the trade union movement**

January to June 1997

Today, Statistics Canada releases "A statistical portrait of the trade union movement," which provides historical and current data on unions. It is available by fax immediately.

This article draws on data from different sources and traces union membership over the last 30 years. It looks at current demographic and labour market characteristics of union members as well as wages, benefits and work arrangements of union versus non-union members. Also examined are wage increases vis-à-vis inflation rates, and the state of labour unrest over the past two decades. International union rates are also compared.

The Winter 1997 issue of *Perspectives on labour and income* (75-001-XPE, \$18/\$58), which includes the article "A statistical portrait of the trade union movement," will be available in December. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Ernest B. Akyeampong (613-951-4624). To order "A statistical portrait of the trade union movement" by fax (\$40), contact Jeannine Usalcas (613-951-4628), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

## MAJOR RELEASES

### International travel account

Second quarter 1997 (preliminary)

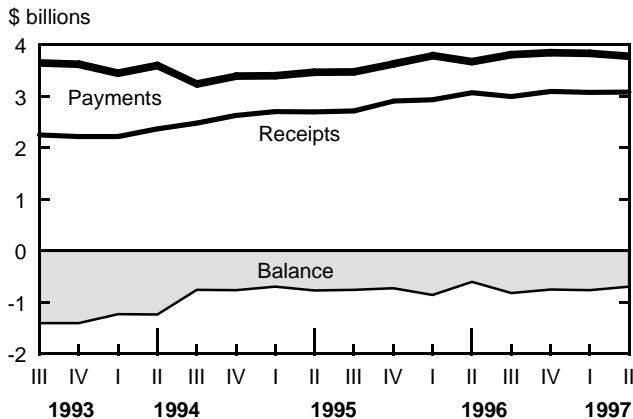
Canada's international travel account balance improved in the second quarter of 1997, although it remained in a deficit position.

#### International travel account deficit down

Foreign visitors injected almost \$3.1 billion into the Canadian economy in the second quarter of 1997, practically unchanged from the previous quarter. Meanwhile, the \$3.8 billion Canadian travellers spent abroad between April and June was 1.4% lower than the first quarter.

Consequently, the international travel account deficit dropped 8.5%, from \$761 million in the first quarter to \$696 million in the second. This deficit peaked at \$1.9 billion during the last quarter of 1991.

**International travel account deficit at its lowest level in four quarters**



#### Note to readers

Unless otherwise stated, quarterly data used in this release are seasonally adjusted. Amounts are in Canadian dollars and are not adjusted for inflation. Receipts represent spending by foreigners travelling in Canada, including education-related and medical-related spending. Payments represent spending by Canadians travelling abroad, including education-related and medical-related spending. Spending by business travellers and transportation crew members are part of the business sector, while spending by other travellers and education-related and medical-related spending are part of the personal sector.

#### Americans spent more in Canada, Canadians spent less in the United States

Americans spent \$1.7 billion while travelling in Canada in the second quarter, a record 2.6% more than during the previous quarter. Meanwhile, Canadians spent \$2.5 billion in the United States, practically unchanged from each of the previous two quarters. In the fourth quarter of 1991, Canadians spent a record \$2.8 billion south of the border. In 1991, the Canadian dollar was worth US\$0.87 and the number of same-day trips to the United States, often used as an indicator of cross-border shopping, also peaked. The travel account deficit with the United States, the difference between receipts and payments — reached \$770 million for the second quarter, 6.9% less than in the first quarter.

#### Eighth consecutive surplus in the travel account with countries other than the United States

In the second quarter of 1997, the travel account with countries other than the United States showed a surplus (\$74 million) for an eighth consecutive quarter, increasing 12.1% over the first quarter. Many European currencies have recently lost value compared with the Canadian dollar. Overseas residents travelled less to Canada in the second quarter than in the first quarter. They spent \$1.4 billion, down 2.4%. It was the second decrease since peaking in the last quarter of 1996. Meanwhile, Canadians reduced their spending in countries other than the United States even more (-3.1%, to \$1.3 billion).

For further information on this release, contact Luc Dubois (613-951-1674; fax: 613-951-2909; Internet: [duboluc@statcan.ca](mailto:duboluc@statcan.ca)), International Travel Section, Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. □

International travel account receipts and payments

	First quarter 1996	Second quarter 1996	Third quarter 1996	Fourth quarter 1996	First quarter 1997 <sup>r</sup>	Second quarter 1997 <sup>p</sup>	1995	1996
seasonally adjusted <sup>1</sup>								
\$ millions								
United States								
Receipts	1,616	1,668	1,596	1,626	1,654	1,698	6,032	6,506
Payments	2,506	2,380	2,508	2,476	2,481	2,468	9,056	9,870
Balance	-890	-712	-912	-850	-827	-770	-3,023	-3,364
All other countries								
Receipts	1,318	1,402	1,398	1,468	1,422	1,388	4,994	5,586
Payments	1,285	1,292	1,305	1,369	1,357	1,314	4,914	5,251
Balance	34	110	93	99	66	74	79	335
Total								
Receipts	2,934	3,070	2,994	3,094	3,076	3,086	11,026	12,092
Payments	3,790	3,672	3,813	3,846	3,837	3,782	13,970	15,122
Balance	-856	-602	-819	-752	-761	-696	-2,944	-3,029
unadjusted <sup>1</sup>								
\$ millions								
United States								
Receipts	865	1,704	2,851	1,087	883	1,750	6,032	6,506
Payments	2,930	2,573	2,395	1,973	2,902	2,644	9,056	9,870
Balance	-2,065	-869	456	-886	-2,019	-894	-3,023	-3,364
All other countries								
Receipts	874	1,422	2,226	1,063	920	1,401	4,994	5,586
Payments	1,411	1,215	1,460	1,165	1,472	1,226	4,914	5,251
Balance	-537	207	766	-102	-552	175	79	335
Total								
Receipts	1,739	3,126	5,077	2,150	1,803	3,151	11,026	12,092
Payments	4,341	3,788	3,855	3,138	4,374	3,870	13,970	15,122
Balance	-2,602	-662	1,222	-988	-2,571	-719	-2,944	-3,029

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>1</sup> Data may not add to totals due to rounding.



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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Employment, earnings and hours

June 1997 (preliminary)

In June, employees' average weekly earnings fell \$2.81 (-0.5%) to \$599.55, partly offsetting increases in the previous two months. With the exception of wholesale trade, education, finance, insurance and real estate, the earnings decline was widespread throughout all industries. Despite this month's drop, average weekly earnings have increased \$2.59 since January of this year and \$10.58 since June 1996, with employees in public administration, mining, quarrying and oil wells and miscellaneous services registering year-over-year earnings decreases. All other industries, led by employees in finance and insurance and real estate and transportation and storage industries, reported annual gains.

The year-over-year earnings increase was led by higher average earnings for commissioned agents and working owners (+5.3%), as well as employees paid by the hour (+3.5%). For employees paid by the hour, the growth was bolstered by a rise in hours worked per week, which increased from 30.4 hours to 31.7 between June 1996 and June 1997.

The number of employees on business payrolls expanded in June, increasing by 25,000 from the previous month. Gains were widespread with increases in retail trade, manufacturing, wholesale trade and business services. These same industries were primarily responsible for the employment increase of 169,000 since January 1997.

While most of the employment increase in retail trade in June was due to the return of striking workers in Alberta food stores, employment in this industry has

#### Note to readers

*The Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours (SEPH) is currently in the final phase of a major, multi-year re-engineering project to improve estimates of the level of business payrolls and paid employment, and to reduce reporting burden on businesses. With the change in methodology, there is a risk that employment estimates from the administrative records may show a different seasonal pattern than the previous questionnaire data, which can only be assessed within the context of a longer time period. Statistics Canada continues to monitor these impacts and will help users interpret its data. It is recommended that SEPH data, particularly employment data, be used in the context of longer time periods or for detailed industry distributions.*

been trending up since the fall of 1996. Retail food stores, automobile dealers and other retail stores were the main contributors to recent employment gains.

All provinces except Newfoundland registered employment gains, with the largest increases occurring in Alberta, British Columbia and Ontario.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 4285-4466, 9438-9452, 9639-9664 and 9899-9911.**

Detailed industry data and other labour market indicators are available through standard tables in the monthly publication *Employment, earnings and hours* (72-002-XPB, \$32/\$320), the historical publication *Annual estimates of employment, earnings and hours 1983-1995* (diskette: 72F0002XDE, \$120) and by custom tabulations. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Stephen Johnson (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; Internet: [labour@statcan.ca](mailto:labour@statcan.ca)), Labour Division. □

**Average weekly earnings for all employees**

Industry group (1980 SIC)	June 1996	May 1997 <sup>r</sup>	June 1997 <sup>p</sup>	May 1997 to June 1997	June 1996 to June 1997
	seasonally adjusted				
	\$			% change	
<b>Industrial aggregate</b>	<b>588.97</b>	<b>602.36</b>	<b>599.55</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>1.8</b>
Logging and forestry	790.80	836.57	806.69	-3.6	2.0
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	1,070.99	1,057.56	1,048.83	-0.8	-2.1
Manufacturing	728.05	751.13	736.60	-1.9	1.2
Construction	714.50	724.15	721.78	-0.3	1.0
Transportation and storage	684.48	731.75	726.03	-0.8	6.1
Communication and other utilities	774.42	795.71	798.79	0.4	3.1
Wholesale trade	632.14	643.07	644.43	0.2	1.9
Retail trade	348.01	358.04	351.82	-1.7	1.1
Finance, insurance and real estate	705.60	742.46	750.46	1.1	6.4
Business services	668.39	703.17	689.58	-1.9	3.2
Education-related services	668.14	675.36	676.47	0.2	1.2
Health and social services	506.42	518.86	518.84	0.0	2.5
Accommodation, food and beverage services	235.57	240.23	240.08	-0.1	1.9
Public administration	743.12	736.75	724.23	-1.7	-2.5
<b>Provinces and territories</b>					
Newfoundland	530.96	532.85	543.37	2.0	2.3
Prince Edward Island	502.57	497.54	490.04	-1.5	-2.5
Nova Scotia	500.62	501.94	510.79	1.8	2.0
New Brunswick	511.63	528.16	528.48	0.1	3.3
Quebec	553.36	569.19	567.16	-0.4	2.5
Ontario	631.48	642.31	639.27	-0.5	1.2
Manitoba	518.98	524.27	539.48	2.9	4.0
Saskatchewan	511.87	526.64	527.07	0.1	3.0
Alberta	588.11	601.76	601.32	-0.1	2.2
British Columbia	614.60	622.78	614.87	-1.3	0.0
Yukon	634.33	690.19	691.62	0.2	9.0
Northwest Territories	671.60	727.03	721.96	-0.7	7.5

<sup>r</sup> Revised estimates.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary estimates.

## Number of employees

Industry group (1980 SIC)	April 1997	May 1997 <sup>r</sup>	June 1997 <sup>p</sup>	April 1997 to May 1997	May 1997 to June 1997
	seasonally adjusted				
	thousands			% change	
<b>Industrial aggregate</b>	<b>11,217</b>	<b>11,232</b>	<b>11,257</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>
Logging and forestry	66	64	65	-3.0	1.6
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	142	143	143	0.7	0.0
Manufacturing	1,787	1,789	1,800	0.1	0.6
Construction	471	469	467	-0.4	-0.4
Transportation and storage	474	472	478	-0.4	1.3
Communication and other utilities	377	378	377	0.3	-0.3
Wholesale trade	702	701	709	-0.1	1.1
Retail trade	1,391	1,401	1,412	0.7	0.8
Finance, insurance and real estate	695	698	702	0.4	0.6
Business services	725	725	731	0.0	0.8
Education-related services	936	939	935	0.3	-0.4
Health and social services	1,204	1,210	1,203	0.5	-0.6
Accommodation, food and beverage services	824	833	825	1.1	-1.0
Public administration	683	679	673	-0.6	-0.9
<b>Provinces and territories</b>					
Newfoundland	143	142	140	-0.7	-1.4
Prince Edward Island	46	44	45	-4.3	2.3
Nova Scotia	309	311	313	0.6	0.6
New Brunswick	246	247	251	0.4	1.6
Quebec	2,674	2,680	2,682	0.2	0.1
Ontario	4,408	4,428	4,435	0.5	0.2
Manitoba	421	422	421	0.2	-0.2
Saskatchewan	334	330	331	-1.2	0.3
Alberta	1,136	1,138	1,150	0.2	1.1
British Columbia	1,454	1,445	1,456	-0.6	0.8
Yukon	14	14	14	0.0	0.0
Northwest Territories	25	25	25	0.0	0.0

<sup>r</sup> Revised estimates.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary estimates.

## A statistical portrait of the trade union movement

January to June 1997

During the first six months of 1997, an average of just over 3.5 million Canadians, or about a third of all employees, belonged to a union, according to new data from the redesigned Labour Force Survey (LFS). An additional 332,000 employees were not union members but were covered by collective bargaining agreements, and thus enjoyed union-negotiated privileges.

The 1997 LFS data are generally in line with previously released data from earlier Statistics Canada

surveys. They show that union membership rose fairly steadily from 2.1 million in 1967 to a peak of 3.8 million in 1990 and has declined slowly since then.

Throughout the 30-year period, however, the rate of union membership varied only slightly — between 31% and 33%. While membership among men has fallen, the overall rate has held steady thanks to the growth in membership among women.

Averages of the first six months of 1997 show that 1.6 million women are union members, four times the level three decades ago. In 1967, only 20% of union members were women. Today, 45% are women.

Membership among men has declined from a peak of about 2.3 million in 1989 to just over 1.9 million in 1997.

International unions have lost their pre-eminence in Canada. In 1962, about 2 in 3 union members belonged to an international union (with headquarters outside Canada); by 1992, the ratio had fallen to only 3 in 10.

On average this year, 73% of employees in the public sector belonged to a union, more than three times the proportion of the private sector (22%). While public sector employees account for only 19% of all employees, they constitute 43% of the country's total trade union membership.

About 4 in 10 blue collar workers belong to a union today, compared with 3 in 10 white collar workers. However, some groups of professionals have surpassed this ratio. Half of professional workers (such as teachers and nurses) belong to a union — the highest level for the occupational groups studied.

About 44% of workers aged 45 to 54 are union members, the highest rate of the age groups examined. High unionization rates are also found among those with long job tenure. Both are a reflection of high ratios observed among an aging blue collar and public sector workforce.

Newfoundland and Quebec have high unionization rates, while Ontario and the three Maritime provinces have below average rates. Alberta has the lowest.

Unionized jobs generally provide higher wages, greater non-wage benefits and in many respects better work arrangements than non-unionized jobs. However, not all of the differences can be attributed to union status. Unionized workers and jobs tend to have certain characteristics that are associated with higher wages and/or greater non-wage benefits. For example, union density ratios are higher among men, older workers, those with higher education, workers in professional positions, employees with long tenure and those in larger firms.

Data from Human Resources Development Canada suggest that labour unrest may be on the rise, following a prolonged "cooling off" period. In 1996, 3.3 million person-days were lost because of strikes and lockouts, more than twice the level of 1.6 million the year before. In the first five months of 1997, 1.1 million person-days had already been lost. However, this was far below levels in 1980 when Canada lost about 9 million person-days in more than 1,000 strikes and lockouts.

Figures recently compiled by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development show that among 19 of its member countries, high unionization rates were found in Scandinavian countries, while low rates were recorded in Spain, the United States and France. Canada was in the middle.

This article draws on data from different sources, including new data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS). In January 1997, the redesigned LFS started to collect monthly data on union membership and coverage. Combined with other information obtained from the survey, it offers a rich source of data on union members.

More data on education and provincial figures, wage rates, benefits and work arrangements, as well as wage increases vis-à-vis inflation rates are available in "A statistical portrait of the trade union movement", a pre-release of an article scheduled for the Winter 1997 issue of *Perspectives on labour and income* (75-001-XPE, \$18/\$58). It is available by fax (\$40) immediately.

To obtain a copy of this article, contact Jeannine Usalcas (613-951-4628). For further information on this release, contact Ernest B. Akyeamong (613-951-4624), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division. □

## Union membership

	Union membership			Union density		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
	thousands			%		
1967	2,056	1,654	402	33.2	40.9	15.9
1972	2,355	1,780	575	31.9	37.9	21.4
1977	2,785	2,003	781	31.2	37.4	22.6
1982	2,997	2,016	981	31.0	37.8	24.0
1987	3,614	2,261	1,353	32.0	36.0	27.0
1992	3,803	2,216	1,587	33.2	36.1	29.8
1997 <sup>2</sup>	3,537	1,932	1,605	31.5	32.9	30.0

<sup>1</sup> Union density is the ratio of the number of employees who belong to a union to the number of paid employees.

<sup>2</sup> Average for the January-to-June 1997 period.

Source: CALURA (1967 to 1992); Labour Force Survey (1997).

## Steel primary forms

Week ending August 23, 1997 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending August 23, 1997, totalled 297 636 tonnes, up 1.3% from the week-earlier 293 749 tonnes and up 31.8% from the year-earlier 225 749 tonnes. The cumulative total at the end of the week was 9 870 164 tonnes, a 7.1% increase compared with 9 215 978 tonnes for the same period in 1996.

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

## Stocks of frozen meat products

August 1997

Total frozen meat in cold storage at the opening of the first business day of August amounted to 39,236 tonnes

compared with 39,618 tonnes last month and 31,125 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, Index of downloadable publications.

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

## Industrial Product Price Index — erratum

July 1997

The table that appeared in the August 27th release of the Industrial Product Price Index for July contained June data. The following table provides the July data. □



**Industrial product price indexes**  
(1986=100)

	Relative importance	July 1996	June 1997 <sup>r</sup>	July 1997 <sup>p</sup>	July 1996 to July 1997	June 1997 to July 1997
		% change				
<b>Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI)</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>128.8</b>	<b>130.4</b>	<b>130.1</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
Total IPPI excluding petroleum and coal products	93.6	130.7	132.1	131.8	0.8	-0.2
<b>Intermediate goods<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>60.4</b>	<b>130.4</b>	<b>131.3</b>	<b>130.9</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
First-stage intermediate goods <sup>2</sup>	13.4	127.9	130.8	130.2	1.8	-0.5
Second-stage intermediate goods <sup>3</sup>	47.0	131.1	131.4	131.1	0.0	-0.2
<b>Finished goods<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>39.6</b>	<b>126.4</b>	<b>129.0</b>	<b>128.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
Finished foods and feeds	9.9	127.1	129.7	129.7	2.0	0.0
Capital equipment	10.4	128.9	131.8	131.5	2.0	-0.2
All other finished goods	19.3	124.7	127.2	127.0	1.8	-0.2
<b>Aggregation by commodities</b>						
Meat, fish and dairy products	7.4	125.8	129.7	129.6	3.0	-0.1
Fruit, vegetable, feed, miscellaneous food products	6.3	132.9	130.6	129.8	-2.3	-0.6
Beverages	2.0	131.2	133.5	133.2	1.5	-0.2
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.7	177.1	187.6	187.6	5.9	0.0
Rubber, leather, plastic fabric products	3.1	126.6	128.6	128.6	1.6	0.0
Textile products	2.2	120.0	120.3	120.3	0.2	0.0
Knitted products and clothing	2.3	121.4	122.5	122.6	1.0	0.1
Lumber, sawmill, other wood products	4.9	159.0	163.9	163.3	2.7	-0.4
Furniture and fixtures	1.7	125.8	126.2	126.5	0.6	0.2
Paper and paper products	8.1	139.2	132.2	132.7	-4.7	0.4
Printing and publishing	2.7	168.8	169.3	169.5	0.4	0.1
Primary metal products	7.7	123.6	130.4	128.2	3.7	-1.7
Metal fabricated products	4.9	130.6	132.3	132.2	1.2	-0.1
Machinery and equipment	4.2	130.7	133.3	133.3	2.0	0.0
Autos, trucks, other transportation equipment	17.6	124.0	126.7	126.1	1.7	-0.5
Electrical and communications products	5.1	119.9	121.6	121.5	1.3	-0.1
Non-metallic mineral products	2.6	124.0	125.5	125.7	1.4	0.2
Petroleum and coal products <sup>5</sup>	6.4	101.4	104.8	105.5	4.0	0.7
Chemicals and chemical products	7.2	134.0	133.8	133.6	-0.3	-0.1
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.5	124.7	124.8	124.5	-0.2	-0.2
Miscellaneous non-manufactured commodities	0.4	93.2	86.7	85.0	-8.8	-2.0

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>1</sup> Intermediate goods are used principally to produce other goods.

<sup>2</sup> First-stage intermediate goods are used most frequently to produce other intermediate goods.

<sup>3</sup> Second-stage intermediate goods are most commonly used to produce final goods.

<sup>4</sup> Finished goods are most commonly used for immediate consumption or for capital investment.

<sup>5</sup> This index is estimated for the current month.



## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**Livestock statistics updates**, August 1997  
**Catalogue number 23-603-UPE**  
(Canada: \$45/\$149; outside Canada: US\$45/US\$149).

**Wholesale trade**, June 1997  
**Catalogue number 63-008-XPB**  
(Canada: \$19/\$186; outside Canada: US\$19/US\$186).

**Construction type plywood**, June 1997  
**Catalogue number 35-001-XPB**  
(Canada: \$7/\$62; outside Canada: US\$7/US\$62).

**All prices exclude sales tax.**

**Shipments of office furniture products**,  
Semi-annual period ended June 30, 1997  
**Catalogue number 35-006SXPB**  
(Canada: \$14/\$28; outside Canada: US\$14/US\$28).

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Catalogue 11-001E (11-001E) (11-001E) (11-001E) (11-001E)

**The Daily**  
Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997  
For release at 9:30 a.m.

**MAJOR RELEASES**

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2  
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about six trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4  
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

**OTHER RELEASES**

- **Help-wanted index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 2
- **Steel primary forms, sales ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **Egg production, April 1997** 13

**PUBLICATIONS RELEASED** 11

Canada

### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001E.

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