

Thursday, October 22, 1998
For release at 8:30 a.m.

## MAJOR RELEASES

- Retail trade, August 1998

Retail sales edged down slightly ( $-0.2 \%$ ) in August to $\$ 20.7$ billion, following two months of volatile sales.

- Foreign control in the Canadian economy, 1996

The revenue of foreign-controlled corporations was $31 \%$ of the revenue generated by the business sector in Canada in 1996, virtually unchanged from 1995. The levelling off in foreign control occurred as revenue growth of Canadian corporations caught up to, and in some areas, surpassed that of foreign-controlled corporations.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

## Retail trade

August 1998

Retail sales edged down slightly ( $-0.2 \%$ ) in August to $\$ 20.7$ billion, following two months of volatile sales. Retailers increased their sales 1.5\% in July after reporting a $1.7 \%$ decline in June. Sales in August were $4.0 \%$ higher compared with August 1997. The last three months have had the lowest year-over-year percentage increases since September 1996.

Retail sales have been weakening in the last few months due to sluggish sales by general merchandise and clothing stores. Retail sales had been rising since the spring of 1996 with a period of strong increases between the fall of 1996 and the summer of 1997.

Consumers were flooded with worrisome economic news in August, which may have affected consumer confidence. Among the most publicized news, the Canadian stock markets suffered the largest monthly decline since the crash of October 1987 and the value of the Canadian dollar dropped to a record low compared with the U. S. dollar. However, in August, interest rates remained unchanged from the start of the year.

In August, the low value of the Canadian dollar against the U.S. dollar resulted in a record number of Americans travelling to Canada. Gasoline service stations could have seen sales rise from this increase in visitors but the petroleum industry faced low prices due to an oversupply on world markets. Gasoline service stations recorded higher sales volumes of refined petroleum products, but lower prices held back revenues.


## Good month for motor and recreational vehicle dealers

Sales of motor and recreational vehicle dealers rose by $1.8 \%$ in August. Without sales by motor and recreational vehicle dealers, total retail sales would have declined by $0.9 \%$ in August. Drugstores, clothing stores and stores not elsewhere classified remained virtually unchanged in August, while all other sectors posted declines.

While sales by motor and recreational vehicle dealers increased $1.8 \%$ in August, the number of new motor vehicles sold by dealers as reported by manufacturers fell by $1.2 \%$. Sales by motor and recreational vehicle dealers include sales by vendors of used cars, motorcycles, boats and motor homes. In addition, a significant proportion of sales by new car dealers include pre-owned vehicles, parts, repair and maintenance services. After a period of strong increases from the fall of 1996 to the spring of 1997, retail sales in the automotive sector have generally been posting smaller gains.

## Largest decline in general merchandise stores

The largest decline in August came from general merchandise stores (-1.8\%), following two months of volatile sales. Within this sector, both department stores ( $-2.1 \%$ ) and other general merchandise stores (-1.5\%) reported lower sales. After posting gains for the first three months of 1998, department store sales have declined for each of the past five months with the exception of July. August's sales in department stores were $0.9 \%$ higher than in the same month of 1997 - the lowest year-over-year percentage increase since June 1996. Recent weakness in department stores could be linked to restructuring occurring in that industry. There were 64 fewer department stores in August compared with March 1998, the last peak in department store sales. Overall, for the general merchandise stores sector, sales had generally been increasing from the summer of 1993 to the spring of 1998.

Food stores ( $-1.1 \%$ ) showed the second largest decline in August. Lower prices of fresh vegetables contributed to this decline (ideal growing conditions in 1998 resulted in an abundance of locally produced crops). Still, sales by food stores have generally been increasing since the spring of 1996.

After three consecutive months of increases, consumers reduced their spending in furniture stores
$(-0.7 \%)$ in August. This decline came from diminishing sales in household furniture and appliance stores $(-1.3 \%)$ - the first decline in four months. Sales in furniture stores have steadily been rising since the spring of 1996.

## Consumers in Ontario spent slightly more

In August, retailers in Ontario enjoyed a 0.6\% increase in sales - the largest increase of all provinces. The end of the labour disputes in the automobile and construction industries may have contributed to this increase. Sales in August were $7.6 \%$ higher than the same month in 1997. Retail sales in Ontario have generally been rising since the summer of 1996 after a period of stagnation beginning in early 1995.

Retailers in other provinces posted either declining or stagnant sales. Consumers in Newfoundland ( $-2.1 \%$ ), Prince Edward Island ( $-1.5 \%$ ) and British Columbia ( $-1.4 \%$ ) showed the largest reductions in spending.

## Related indicators

The number of housing starts declined $1.4 \%$ compared with August and there was a large increase
in the Bank of Canada prime rate in September. Total employment rose $0.5 \%$ in September and the value of the Canadian dollar compared with the U. S. dollar recovered slightly from the August low. Sources in the automobile industry indicated a rise in the number of new motor vehicles sold in September.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2299, 2398-2417 and 2420.

The August 1998 issue of Retail trade (63-005-XPB, \$21/\$206) will be available shortly. See How to order publications.

For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Paul Gratton (613-951-3541; gratpau@statcan.ca). For data or general information, contact the Client Services Unit (613-951-3549; logener@statcan.ca), Retail Trade Section, Distributive Trades Division.

Retail sales

| Trade group | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } \\ & 1997 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { May } \\ 1998^{r} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { June } \\ & 1998^{r} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { July } \\ 1998^{r} \end{gathered}$ | Aug. $1998^{p}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { July } \\ 1998 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Aug. } \\ 1998 \end{array}$ | Aug. 1997 to <br> Aug. 1998 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | \$ millions |  |  |  |  | \% change |  |
| Food | 4,692 | 4,840 | 4,832 | 4,844 | 4,789 | -1.1 | 2.0 |
| Supermarkets and grocery stores | 4,345 | 4,481 | 4,471 | 4,481 | 4,431 | -1.1 | 2.0 |
| All other food stores | 351 | 358 | 360 | 362 | 358 | -1.2 | 2.1 |
| Drug and patent medicine stores | 1,038 | 1,103 | 1,092 | 1,111 | 1,110 | -0.1 | 6.9 |
| Clothing | 1,134 | 1,173 | 1,131 | 1,175 | 1,176 | 0.0 | 3.7 |
| Shoe stores | 139 | 150 | 134 | 141 | 139 | -0.8 | 0.2 |
| Men's clothing stores | 132 | 129 | 125 | 130 | 134 | 2.7 | 1.6 |
| Women's clothing stores | 362 | 377 | 356 | 373 | 370 | -0.9 | 2.0 |
| Other clothing stores | 501 | 518 | 515 | 531 | 533 | 0.3 | 6.3 |
| Furniture | 992 | 1,041 | 1,044 | 1,070 | 1,063 | -0.7 | 7.1 |
| Household furniture and appliance stores | 802 | 842 | 843 | 871 | 859 | -1.3 | 7.2 |
| Household furnishings stores | 191 | 199 | 201 | 200 | 204 | 2.0 | 6.9 |
| Automotive | 7,673 | 8,024 | 7,895 | 7,959 | 8,036 | 1.0 | 4.7 |
| Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers | 5,159 | 5,507 | 5,465 | 5,482 | 5,583 | 1.8 | 8.2 |
| Gasoline service stations | 1,359 | 1,300 | 1,265 | 1,272 | 1,266 | -0.5 | -6.8 |
| Automotive parts, accessories and services | 1,156 | 1,217 | 1,165 | 1,206 | 1,187 | -1.6 | 2.7 |
| General merchandise stores | 2,230 | 2,360 | 2,250 | 2,347 | 2,304 | -1.8 | 3.3 |
| Retail stores not elsewhere classified | 2,139 | 2,240 | 2,183 | 2,232 | 2,228 | -0.2 | 4.2 |
| Other semi-durable goods stores | 688 | 688 | 651 | 685 | 683 | -0.4 | -0.8 |
| Other durable goods stores | 526 | 574 | 571 | 580 | 576 | -0.6 | 9.6 |
| All other retail stores not elsewhere classified | 925 | 978 | 961 | 967 | 969 | 0.2 | 4.8 |
| Total, retail sales | 19,903 | 20,782 | 20,427 | 20,738 | 20,705 | -0.2 | 4.0 |
| Total excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers | 14,744 | 15,274 | 14,962 | 15,256 | 15,122 | -0.9 | 2.6 |
| Provinces and territories |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newfoundland | 314 | 320 | 319 | 316 | 310 | -2.1 | -1.2 |
| Prince Edward Island | 86 | 88 | 88 | 89 | 87 | -1.5 | 2.2 |
| Nova Scotia | 612 | 627 | 626 | 637 | 636 | -0.3 | 3.9 |
| New Brunswick | 467 | 500 | 494 | 499 | 494 | -1.1 | 5.7 |
| Quebec | 4,635 | 4,756 | 4,647 | 4,769 | 4,753 | -0.3 | 2.6 |
| Ontario | 7,304 | 7,920 | 7,735 | 7,812 | 7,861 | 0.6 | 7.6 |
| Manitoba | 712 | 720 | 731 | 733 | 734 | 0.1 | 3.1 |
| Saskatchewan | 634 | 629 | 627 | 636 | 637 | 0.1 | 0.5 |
| Alberta | 2,242 | 2,375 | 2,327 | 2,382 | 2,369 | -0.5 | 5.7 |
| British Columbia | 2,831 | 2,780 | 2,766 | 2,795 | 2,756 | -1.4 | -2.7 |
| Yukon | 25 | 25 | 26 | 26 | 27 | 1.8 | 6.5 |
| Northwest Territories | 42 | 42 | 40 | 42 | 42 | -1.5 | -1.1 |

[^0]$r$ Revised figures.

The Daily, October 22, 1998

Retail sales

| Trade group | Aug. $1997$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { July } \\ 1998^{r} \end{gathered}$ | Aug. $1998^{p}$ | Aug 1997 <br> to <br> Aug. <br> 1998 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | unadjusted |  |  |  |
|  | \$ millions |  |  | \% change |
| Food | 4,962 | 5,204 | 4,880 | -1.7 |
| Supermarkets and grocery stores | 4,597 | 4,818 | 4,520 | -1.7 |
| All other food stores | 365 | 386 | 360 | -1.5 |
| Drug and patent medicine stores | 1,017 | 1,098 | 1,072 | 5.5 |
| Clothing | 1,169 | 1,081 | 1,190 | 1.7 |
| Shoe stores | 153 | 131 | 150 | -1.9 |
| Men's clothing stores | 111 | 113 | 113 | 1.5 |
| Women's clothing stores | 358 | 363 | 350 | -2.3 |
| Other clothing stores | 547 | 474 | 577 | 5.5 |
| Furniture | 1,016 | 1,070 | 1,078 | 6.1 |
| Household furniture and appliance stores | 818 | 863 | 871 | 6.4 |
| Household furnishings stores | 198 | 207 | 207 | 4.5 |
| Automotive | 7,481 | 8,689 | 7,803 | 4.3 |
| Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers | 4,867 | 5,928 | 5,277 | 8.4 |
| Gasoline service stations | 1,466 | 1,420 | 1,361 | -7.1 |
| Automotive parts, accessories and services | 1,148 | 1,341 | 1,165 | 1.5 |
| General merchandise stores | 2,201 | 2,194 | 2,247 | 2.1 |
| Retail stores not elsewhere classified | 2,312 | 2,447 | 2,356 | 1.9 |
| Other semi-durable goods stores | 717 | 719 | 703 | -2.0 |
| Other durable goods stores | 564 | 601 | 610 | 8.1 |
| All other retail stores n.e.c. | 1,031 | 1,126 | 1,043 | 1.2 |
| Total, retail sales | 20,158 | 21,783 | 20,625 | 2.3 |
| Total excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers | 15,290 | 15,855 | 15,349 | 0.4 |
| Provinces and territories |  |  |  |  |
| Newfoundland | 333 | 346 | 322 | -3.2 |
| Prince Edward Island | 96 | 105 | 97 | 0.6 |
| Nova Scotia | 636 | 685 | 652 | 2.5 |
| New Brunswick | 487 | 536 | 503 | 3.4 |
| Quebec | 4,719 | 5,085 | 4,748 | 0.6 |
| Ontario | 7,242 | 8,114 | 7,688 | 6.2 |
| Manitoba | 724 | 761 | 732 | 1.1 |
| Saskatchewan | 641 | 662 | 633 | -1.3 |
| Alberta | 2,265 | 2,446 | 2,367 | 4.5 |
| British Columbia | 2,943 | 2,964 | 2,809 | -4.6 |
| Yukon | 28 | 33 | 31 | 7.6 |
| Northwest Territories | 44 | 46 | 42 | -2.4 |

[^1]Revised figures.

## Foreign control in the Canadian economy 1996

The revenue of foreign-controlled corporations was $31 \%$ of the revenue generated by the business sector in Canada in 1996, virtually unchanged from 1995. The levelling off in foreign control occurred as revenue growth of Canadian corporations caught up to, and in some areas, surpassed that of foreign-controlled corporations.

## Foreign control levelled off during the 1995-1996 period



The revenue of Canadian firms rose $9.8 \%$ in 1996, slightly more than foreign-controlled corporations $(+9.3 \%)$. This reversed the pattern earlier in the first half of the decade, when foreign-controlled firms had an average annual growth rate of $7.1 \%$, compared with 3.0\% for Canadian firms.

Small Canadian firms experienced stronger growth ( $+10.3 \%$ ) compared with medium/large firms ( $+9.2 \%$ ). The growth in revenue of small Canadian firms marked a huge turnaround from the $1.4 \%$ average annual growth between 1990 and 1995.

## Revenue growth: Firms' size and control

|  | Canadian-controlled firms |  | Foreigncontrolled firms |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1996 | $\begin{gathered} 1990- \\ 1995 \end{gathered}$ | 1996 | $\begin{array}{r} 1990- \\ 1995 \end{array}$ |
|  | annual \% change |  |  |  |
| Small | 10.3 | 1.4 | 6.0 | 3.4 |
| Medium-large | 9.2 | 4.7 | 9.5 | 7.4 |
| All firms | 9.8 | 3.0 | 9.3 | 7.1 |

## Note to readers

This report assesses the extent of foreign control in the Canadian business sector, excluding Crown corporations. It is based on data contained in Statistics Canada's publication CALURA - Corporations 1996, which is available today.

The Corporations and Labour Unions Returns Act was passed by Parliament in 1962 and is administered by the Chief Statistician of Canada under the authority of the Minister of Industry. The purpose of the Act is to collect financial and other information on the affairs of certain corporations and labour unions carrying on activities in Canada. It is also to evaluate the extent and effects of non-resident ownership and control of corporations in Canada, and the extent and effects of the association of Canadians with international labour unions.

For the purposes of this report, small firms refer to those with annual operating revenues of less than $\$ 25$ million. On average, they account for about $40 \%$ of revenue generated by the private businesses operating in Canada. Medium- and larger-sized corporations refer to those with revenue of \$25 million and over.

The revenue of small Canadian enterprises grew $10.3 \%$ in 1996 for the first time in the decade, surpassing larger enterprises, whether Canadian or foreign. In contrast, foreign-controlled medium-large firms showed an increase in revenue of $9.5 \%$ in 1996, while foreign-controlled small firms trailed at $6.0 \%$.

Small Canadian-owned firms were especially hard hit by the recession of 1990/92, and recovered more slowly than larger firms because they were more dependent on the domestic Canadian market. Post-recession growth was led by exports. These small firms benefited in increased revenues as the domestic markets began to grow more rapidly in 1995 and 1996.

In 1996, foreign-controlled medium-large firms experienced the highest revenue growth in chemicals, chemical products and textiles; construction and real estate; consumers and business financing; services and consumer goods and services.

During the same period, Canadian medium-large firms showed the highest revenue growth in energy, machinery and equipment; transportation equipment; electrical and electronic products, communications and deposit accepting intermediaries. Together these industries accounted for over half of the business sector revenue in Canada in 1996.

## Nearly half of the industries saw a decline in foreign control

Between 1995 and 1996, 7 of the 16 industries that make up the business sector in Canada saw a decline in the share of foreign control, reversing trends in the first half of the decade. During this period, the
major decline occurred in the machinery and equipment industry, where foreign control fell from $39.8 \%$ to $37.0 \%$.

From 1995 to 1996, nearly half of the industries saw a decline in the share of foreign control


Foreign-controlled firms continued to operate mainly in the manufacturing sector of the economy. Traditionally, foreign-control was most concentrated in the chemicals, chemical products and textiles industry, in the transportation equipment industry, and in the electrical and electronic products industry. In 1996, foreign control reached $64.4 \%$ in the chemicals, chemical products and textiles industry; $57.8 \%$ in the transportation equipment industry; and $56.4 \%$ in the electrical and electronic products industry.

In contrast, between 1990 and 1995, foreign-control increased in 12 of the 16 industries in the Canadian economy. The most significant increase of foreign control took place in transportation equipment (from $48.7 \%$ to $58.3 \%$ ), wood and paper (from $23.7 \%$ to $29.7 \%$ ) and communications ( $11.8 \%$ to $17.2 \%$ ).

Foreign control increased in most industries in Canada between 1990 and 1995


## Canadian medium-large firms the most profitable

The business sector in Canada posted a profit-torevenue ratio of $6.5 \%$ in 1996, slightly higher than the average performance in the first half of the decade.

Although foreign-controlled firms generally recorded a higher profit per dollar of revenue than their Canadian counterparts in the first half of the decade and in 1996, the difference was only half a percentage point. Overall, the profit per dollar of revenue shows that Canadian-controlled firms were not significantly outperformed by their foreign counterparts.

With a profit per dollar of revenue ratio of $9.3 \%$ in 1996, compared with $7.1 \%$ during the 1990-1995 period, Canadian medium-large firms experienced the strongest financial performance of the business sector. Their foreign counterparts of the same size posted a ratio of $7.0 \%$ in 1996.

Canadian firms experienced the highest profit per dollar of revenue in several industries in 1996. Industries such as wood and paper; energy; transportation equipment; construction and real estate; deposit-accepting intermediaries and services, where Canadian firms generated more than $60 \%$ of the revenue, formed the core of the strong-performance of Canadian medium-large firms.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3275-3296.
The 1996 CALURA Part I - Corporations (61-220-XPB, \$40) is now available. See How to order publications.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Tarek M. Harchaoui (613-951-9856; harctar@statcan.ca; linxiao@statcan.ca), Industrial Organization and Finance Division.

Profit for every dollar of revenue by industry

|  | 1990-1995 |  |  |  | 1996 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Canadian |  | Foreign |  | Canadian |  | Foreign |  |
|  | Small | Medium-Large | Small | Medium-Large | Small | Medium-Large | Small | Medium-Large |
|  | \% |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Food, beverages and tobacco | $x$ | x | x | x | x | $x$ | x | $x$ |
| Wood and paper | 2.9 | 4.6 | 1.7 | 4.5 | 2.8 | 7.9 | 2.8 | 5.9 |
| Energy | 2.9 | 14.3 | 4.3 | 7.7 | 5.3 | 15.0 | 0.7 | 9.5 |
| Chemicals, chemical products and textiles | 3.3 | 6.7 | 4.0 | 7.9 | 3.3 | 8.6 | 3.2 | 9.6 |
| Metallic minerals and metal products | 2.7 | 4.6 | 0.6 | 3.6 | 3.2 | 7.1 | 1.7 | 7.0 |
| Machinery and equipment | 2.7 | 3.5 | 1.7 | 5.9 | 2.9 | 5.9 | 3.8 | 5.9 |
| Transportation equipment | 2.2 | 5.2 | 1.9 | 1.6 | 2.3 | 5.8 | 2.1 | 3.6 |
| Electrical and electronic products | 1.8 | 5.9 | 0.6 | 2.7 | 1.6 | 4.6 | 3.7 | 5.0 |
| Construction and real estate | 4.3 | 10.2 | 5.8 | 10.0 | 4.9 | 12.9 | 7.0 | 8.7 |
| Transportation services | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Communication | 3.2 | 15.0 | 1.4 | 13.9 | 2.6 | 13.5 | 3.9 | 12.0 |
| Deposit accepting intermediaries | 9.6 | 9.6 | -7.7 | 6.5 | 7.7 | 18.6 | 0.3 | 14.4 |
| Insurers | 6.7 | 4.0 | 23.1 | 6.1 | 2.4 | 7.4 | 12.9 | 9.7 |
| Consumer and business financing | 25.4 | 34.9 | 34.9 | 47.4 | 27.6 | 32.5 | 51.1 | 42.2 |
| Services | 3.6 | 5.6 | -2.3 | 4.5 | 2.2 | 6.7 | 0.0 | 3.4 |
| Consumer goods and services | 2.3 | 2.7 | 1.9 | 2.7 | 2.0 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.1 |
| Average (whole business sector) | 3.5 | 7.1 | 3.7 | 5.6 | 3.3 | 9.3 | 4.5 | 7.0 |

Note: $\quad x$ confidential to meet secrecy requirements of the Statistics Act.

## OTHER RELEASES

## Civil aviation operating statistics

August 1998
Air Canada reported its eighth straight monthly increase in domestic passenger-kilometres flown (seasonally adjusted data) in August. This increase made Air Canada $16 \%$ larger in the domestic market than at the end of 1997. Canadian Airlines International Ltd. (CAI) waas $6 \%$ smaller in this market over the same period. As a result, Air Canada now has over $80 \%$ more domestic passenger-kilometres each month than CAI.

## Available on CANSIM: matrix 385.

The August 1998 data on civil aviation (operational data) for Air Canada and Canadian Airlines International Ltd. will be published shortly in the Aviation: Service bulletin (51-004-XIB, $\$ 8 / \$ 82$ ), which appears monthly on the Internet (www.statcan.ca). A print-on-demand service is also available at a different price and can be ordered directly from the Internet or by calling 1800 267-6677.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Lisa Di Piétro (613-951-0146), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division.

## Air fare statistics

1997 (preliminary)
In 1997, the average domestic air fare (all types) paid by passengers was $\$ 181$, up $2.4 \%$ from the 1996 figure of $\$ 177$, but still $9.4 \%$ below the record average air fare of \$200 in 1994.

The increase in average fares occurred despite of the record $83.0 \%$ of passengers who travelled on discount fares on domestic scheduled services, up from the previous record of $79.6 \%$ in 1996.

The greatest use of discount fares was on international scheduled services, where $89.4 \%$ of passengers travelled on a discount. The lowest use was in the northern domestic sector, where $66.4 \%$ of passengers travelled on a discount.

Preliminary estimates are now available for 1997. Information on the types of fares used by passengers is based on data from the four Level I air carriers (AirBC, Air Canada, Canadian Airlines International Ltd. and Time Air) and from Inter-Canadien and Ontario Express.

These estimates will appear shortly in the Aviation: Service bulletin (51-004-XIB, $\$ 8 / \$ 82$ ), which is
published monthly on the Internet (www.statcan.ca). A print-on-demand service is also available at a different price. It can be ordered directly from the Internet or by calling 1800 267-6677.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Bradley Snider (613-951-0071, Internet: snidbra@statcan.ca) or Lisa Di Piétro (613-951-0146), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division.

## Industrial concentration in the manufacturing, mining and logging industries <br> 1965-1995

Industrial concentration ratios for leading enterprises are available by four-digit industry level from the Annual Survey of Manufacturing data. The series covers the 1965 to 1995 period for most industries. However, fewer years of data are available for some industries.

In 1995, most industries experienced an increase in the concentration ratios for the top 4,8 and 12 leading enterprises compared with 1994, while the ratios remained stable for the top 16, 20 and 50 leading enterprises. Most of the increases were between $1 \%$ and $2 \%$. For the industries that experienced decreases in the concentration ratios of leading enterprises, those decreases were insignificant (mostly less than 1\%).

The report Industrial organization and concentration in the manufacturing, logging and mining industries is now available. Data are also available through custom tabulation.

For further information, contact JeanMarie Houle (613-951-9497; fax: 613-951-3522; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing Disclosure and Dissemination Section. To enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release contact Daniela Ravindra (951-3514), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

## Steel primary forms

Week ending October 17, 1998 (preliminary)
Steel primary forms production for the week ending October 17, 1998, totalled 244039 metric tonnes, down $5.2 \%$ from the week-earlier 257464 tonnes and down $13.4 \%$ from the year-earlier 281874 tonnes. The cumulative total at the end of the week was 12842492
tonnes, a 4.8\% increase compared with 12259386 tonnes for the same period in 1997.

For further information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-7093; milsomg@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

## Railway carloadings

Seven-day period ending October 7, 1998
Carloadings of freight (excluding intermodal traffic) during the seven-day period ending October 7, 1998, decreased $2.9 \%$ to 4.9 million tonnes from the same period last year. The number of cars loaded also decreased 2.4\%.

Intermodal traffic (piggyback) tonnage totalled 371000 tonnes, a $1.1 \%$ decrease from the same period last year. The year-to-date figures show a decline of 2.2\%.

Total traffic (carloadings of freight and intermodal traffic) decreased 2.8\% during the period. This brought the year-to-date total to 197.0 million tonnes, a decrease of $2.1 \%$ from the previous year.

All year-to-date figures have been revised.
For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0009; laroque@statcan.ca), Transportation Division.

## Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation

September 1998
Manufacturers shipped 2927194 square metres of R12 factor (RSI 2.1) mineral wool batts in September,
down 13.8\% from 3395279 square metres a year earlier and down 1.4\% from 2969415 square metres a month earlier.

Year-to-date shipments to the end of September 1998 totalled 23938456 square metres, a $22.1 \%$ increase from the same period in 1997.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 40 and 122 (series 32-33).

The September 1998 issue of Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation (44-004-XPB, \$7/\$62) will be available shortly. See How to order publications.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Etienne Saint-Pierre (613-951-9837; saineti@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

## Deliveries of major grains

September 1998
Data on September grain deliveries are now available.

## Available on CANSIM: matrices 976-981.

The delivery data are contained in the September issue of Cereals and oilseeds review (22-007-XPB, \$15/ $\$ 149)$, which will be available in December. See How to order publications.

For further information on this release, contact Rick Burroughs (613-951-2890) or Susan Anderson (613-951-3859), Grain Marketing Unit, Agriculture Division.

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Logging industry, 1995
Catalogue number 25-201-XPB
(Canada: \$34; outside Canada: US\$34).

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and<br>fibreboard, August 1998<br>Catalogue number 36-003-XPB<br>(Canada: \$7/\$62; outside Canada: US\$7/US\$62).

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, August 1998 Catalogue number 31-001-XPB
(Canada: \$20/\$196; outside Canada: US\$20/US\$196).

## CALURA Part I - Corporations, 1996 Catalogue number 61-220-XPB

(Canada: \$40; outside Canada: US\$40).
All prices exclude sales tax.
Catalogue numbers with an -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; and -XPB or -XPE denote a paper version.

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[^0]:    p Preliminary figures.

[^1]:    $p$ Preliminary figures.

