



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, October 30, 1998

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Gross domestic product by industry, at factor cost, August 1998** 3
The economy recovered lost ground in August after four months of decline. Gross domestic product increased by 0.7% bringing the value of economic activity back to its previous peak in March. The primary factor underlying the correction was the recovery from the effects of strikes in June and July.

(continued on following page)

Area profiles series

1996 Census

The *Area profile series* from the 1996 Census gives a statistical picture of all geographic levels of the country including small areas. Two profiles on CD-ROM from are being released today.

The first profile (95F0253XCB96000, \$5,000) gives complete information from the 1996 Census for Canada, provinces and territories; census divisions and subdivisions; census metropolitan areas (CMAs) and census agglomerations (CAs); census tracts of CMAs and some tracted CAs; federal electoral districts (1987 Representation Order) and enumeration areas; federal electoral districts (1996 Representation Order); and forward sortation areas. Separate CD-ROMs for individual provinces and territories will be available in the near future.

The second profile (95F0268XCB96000, \$1,500) gives the same information for all geographic levels except enumeration areas and forward sortation areas.

These CD-ROMs are packaged with the software Beyond 20/20. With many powerful features, the browser allows you to quickly and easily search and sort data, and to copy tables and charts to other Windows applications.

For further information, contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.



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OTHER RELEASES

Domestic sales of refined petroleum products, September 1998	6
Railway carloadings, seven-day period ending October 14, 1998	7
Coal and coke statistics, August 1998	7
Electric power statistics, August 1998	7
Construction type plywood, August 1998	7
National economic and financial accounts.	8

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

9

REGIONAL REFERENCE CENTRES

11

RELEASE DATES: November 1998

12

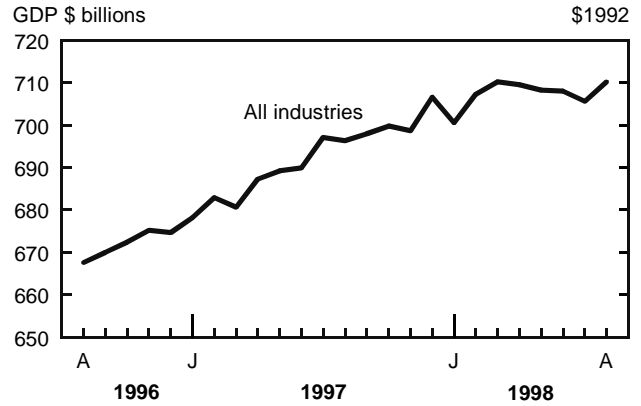
MAJOR RELEASES

Gross domestic product by industry, at factor cost

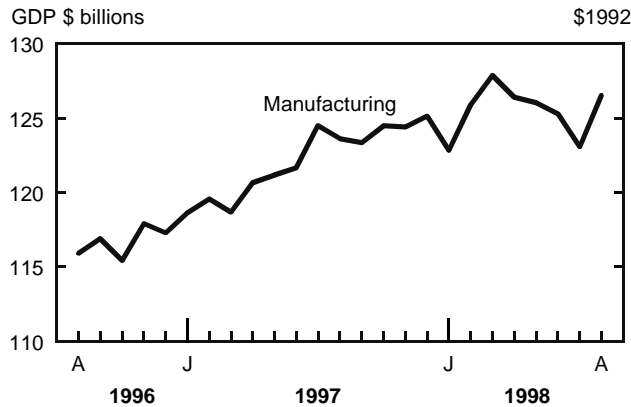
August 1998

The economy recovered lost ground in August after four months of decline. Gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 0.7% bringing the value of economic activity back to its previous peak in March. The primary factor underlying the correction was the recovery from the effects of strikes in June and July. The automotive sector led the advance after the General Motors strike was settled in the United States. The economy was also supported by increased construction activity following the termination of labour disputes in Southern Ontario.

Economic output recovers lost ground



Autos drive manufacturing



Manufacturing: Recovery in the automotive sector

Manufacturing output (+2.8%) regained some lost ground following four months of declines. Increases were widespread (16 of 22 groups which account for 79% of manufacturing output). Thousands of laid-off auto workers were back on the job in Canada in August after a six week strike in the United States had left them idle through much of July. Production of motor vehicles rose 24.4%, and production of motor vehicle parts shot up 26.2%. This rebound was also reflected in strong exports of vehicles to the United States as auto dealers began to replenish depleted stocks.

Production of fabricated metal products advanced 2.2% in August, responding in part to higher demand in the automotive and construction industries. Makers of metal stampings and hardware equipment recorded the largest increases.

Production of furniture also resumed an upward course in August, led by a 4.0% increase in household furniture that may have been prompted to some extent by higher completions in new residential construction.

Newsprint production increased 8.4% despite continued labour disputes. Excess capacity in the industry, however, enabled other producers to make up for the lost production at strike bound facilities.

Overall gains in manufacturing were partly offset by a sharp decline in the output of electrical and electronic products. This was largely centered in the telecommunications equipment industry, following a healthy surge in July.

Production of machinery continued its downward trend in August, falling 3.8%. Production of machinery has declined in five of the previous six months. The pace of output of the machinery and equipment industry in 1998 continues to perform well below the robust pace observed throughout 1997, a period of intensive renewal of physical capital.

Construction industry continued to struggle

Construction activity rebounded somewhat in the wake of strikes in Southern Ontario, but the level of output is only back to June levels and remains relatively flat compared with the previous year. Housing starts,

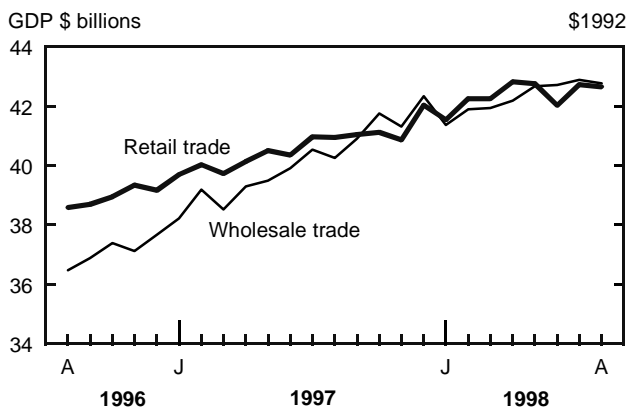
however, were up sharply in August following four consecutive months of decline. Non-residential building, engineering and repair construction for the most part remained at July levels.

Weakness in wholesale and retail trade

Wholesaling activities declined by 0.3% — further extending the period of lacklustre growth. Weakness in wholesale trade was widespread and would have been worse had it not been for automobiles, as car dealers started to replenish stock. There was also some strength in wholesale lumber sales.

Retail trade sales edged down 0.2% in August. Supermarkets and grocery stores, department stores and other general merchandise stores all reported lower sales activity in August. These losses were partly offset by improved sales of automobiles after three lacklustre months.

No gains in wholesale or retail trade



Transportation buoyed by movement of cars, trucks and grain

Transportation services advanced 0.9% in August, buoyed by a surge in the transportation of cars, trucks

and grain. Both rail and truck carriers benefited from a rebound in automotive manufacturing and wholesaling. Continued weakness in sales of most primary commodities hampered demand for transportation services.

Financial services hurt by global economic conditions

Financial services declined 0.5% in August, primarily due to lower sales of mutual funds. Sales of mutual funds sank to a three year low as spooked investors retracted from volatile markets.

Mining hampered by production problems

Mining activity fell 0.8% as output of the industry was dampened by unexpected production problems. Drilling and other mining continued to suffer in August, the ninth consecutive monthly decline. Production of non-metals also fell as producers of coal and salt cut back output.

Other industries

Production of electric power increased by 1.9% in August — in part responding to increased demand from United States customers. Business services continued to surge ahead, led by growth in computer services and architect and engineering services.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 4677-4681.

The August issue of *Gross domestic product by industry* (15-001-XPB, \$15/\$145) 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 Richard Evans (613-791-0249). For information regarding the purchase of data, contact Kim Lauzon (613-951-9417; lauzonk@statcan.ca), Industry Measures Analysis Division. □

Gross domestic product at factor cost by industry at 1992 prices

	Mar. 1998 ^r	Apr. 1998 ^r	May 1998 ^r	June 1998 ^r	July 1998 ^r	Aug. 1998 ^p	July 1998 to Aug. 1998	Aug. 1998	Aug. 1997 to Aug. 1998
seasonally adjusted									
	month-to-month % change						\$ change ¹	\$ level ¹	% change
All Industries	0.4	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	-0.3	0.7	4,612	710,173	2.0
Goods-producing industries	0.9	-0.8	-0.4	-0.3	-1.3	1.7	4,060	236,201	1.2
Agriculture	0.1	0.2	0.2	-0.6	0.1	0.1	9	12,020	-1.6
Fishing and trapping	2.4	2.0	1.8	-4.6	-1.4	-4.8	-43	844	-2.8
Logging and forestry	-2.0	-2.5	-4.8	-2.3	-2.9	2.0	70	3,608	-14.2
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	0.2	-0.3	-1.4	0.3	-1.1	-0.8	-218	27,929	-2.6
Manufacturing	1.6	-1.1	-0.3	-0.6	-1.8	2.8	3,489	126,566	2.4
Construction	-1.1	-0.8	-0.9	-1.1	-1.0	1.0	392	39,859	1.2
Other utilities	3.0	0.3	1.0	2.7	0.3	1.4	361	25,375	4.3
Services-producing industries	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	552	473,972	2.4
Transportation and storage	0.8	-0.6	-0.6	0.4	-1.5	1.2	365	30,027	1.0
Communications	0.3	1.2	-0.3	0.8	0.6	0.9	244	26,751	6.3
Wholesale trade	0.1	0.6	1.1	0.1	0.4	-0.3	-112	42,769	6.2
Retail trade	0.0	1.3	-0.2	-1.7	1.7	-0.2	-80	42,647	4.2
Finance and insurance	0.7	0.9	-1.4	1.5	-0.9	-0.5	-193	36,264	-0.9
Real estate and insurance agent	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	43	75,950	1.8
Business services	0.1	-0.7	0.4	0.8	0.2	1.0	437	42,309	7.5
Government services	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	47	40,466	0.1
Education	-0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.1	-0.9	-362	40,120	-1.2
Health and social services	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	0.1	0.2	119	48,976	0.7
Accommodation and food	-1.0	0.7	-1.2	-0.4	0.8	0.2	32	19,089	2.4
Other services	0.2	-0.3	0.4	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	12	28,604	2.0
Other aggregations									
Industrial production	1.5	-0.8	-0.3	0.0	-1.4	2.1	3,632	179,870	1.8
Non-durable manufacturing	1.1	-0.2	0.2	-0.4	-1.1	1.6	906	56,706	2.7
Durable manufacturing	1.9	-1.9	-0.7	-0.8	-2.3	3.8	2,583	69,860	2.1
Business sector	0.5	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	-0.4	0.8	4,901	584,550	2.5
Non-business sector	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	-289	125,623	-0.3

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

¹ Millions of dollars at annual rate.



OTHER RELEASES

Domestic sales of refined petroleum products

September 1998 (preliminary)

Sales of refined petroleum products totalled 7 838 900 cubic metres in September, up 3.5% from the same month a year earlier. Sales increased for four of the seven major product groups over the same period in 1997, with the largest gains recorded for petrochemical feedstocks (+175 400 cubic metres or +90.5%), motor gasoline (+126 800 cubic metres or +4.1%) and heavy fuel oil (+76 800 cubic metres or +17.7%). The large year-over-year increase in petrochemical feedstocks is mostly attributable to a return to normal levels following a temporary shutdown of a major refinery in September last year. The largest decrease was recorded for light fuel oil (-81 900 cubic metres or -28.6%).

Year-to-date sales of refined petroleum products were up 1 401 000 cubic metres or 2.1% over the same period in 1997. Sales increased for five of the seven major product groups. The advance for heavy fuel oil (+883 700 cubic metres or 17.5%) was due to greater use of the product in Atlantic Canada for the generation of electricity. The increase for motor gasoline (+872 200 cubic metres or +3.2%), which accounted for 40.8% of the total, was mainly explained by lower retail prices and the favourable weather. As a result of unseasonably milder temperatures since the beginning of 1998, sales of light fuel oil fell 18.0% (-711 000).

Sales of refined petroleum products

	Sept. 1997 ^r	Sept. 1998 ^p	Sept. 1997 to Sept. 1998
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	7,571.3	7,838.9	3.5
Motor gasoline	3,092.7	3,219.5	4.1
Diesel fuel oil	1,983.4	1,961.0	-1.1
Light fuel oil	286.5	204.6	-28.6
Heavy fuel oil	434.0	510.8	17.7
Aviation turbo fuels	522.1	502.7	-3.7
Petrochemical feed- stocks ¹	193.8	369.2	90.5
All other refined products	1,058.8	1,071.1	1.2

	Jan. 1997 to Sept. 1997 ^r	Jan. 1998 to Sept. 1998 ^p	Jan.-Sep. 1997 to Jan.-Sep. 1998
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, all products	67,539.3	68,940.3	2.1
Motor gasoline	27,240.2	28,112.4	3.2
Diesel fuel oil	15,907.2	16,101.4	1.2
Light fuel oil	3,955.4	3,244.4	-18.0
Heavy fuel oil	5,051.8	5,935.5	17.5
Aviation turbo fuels	4,443.6	4,537.2	2.1
Petrochemical feed- stocks ¹	3,474.8	3,605.7	3.8
All other refined products	7,466.3	7,403.7	-0.8

^r Revised

^p Preliminary

¹ Materials produced by refineries that are used by the petrochemical industry to produce chemicals, synthetic rubber and a variety of plastics.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 628-642 and 644-647.

The September 1998 issue of *Refined petroleum products* (45-004-XPB, \$21/\$206), will be available in December. See *How to order publications*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Michel Palardy (613-951-7174; palamic@statcan.ca), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Railway carloadings

Seven-day period ending October 14, 1998

Carloadings of freight (excluding intermodal traffic) during the seven-day period ending October 14, 1998, decreased 6.5% to 4.3 million tonnes from the same period last year. The number of cars loaded also decreased 5.6%.

Intermodal traffic (piggyback) tonnage totaled 318 000 tonnes, a 9.3% decrease from the same period last year. The year-to-date figures were down 2.4%.

Total traffic (carloadings of freight and intermodal traffic) decreased 6.7% during the period. This brought the year-to-date total to 201.7 million tonnes, a decrease of 2.3% 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. ■

Coal and coke statistics

August 1998

A decline in production by export-oriented mines led to lower coal production in August. Coal production totalled 6 336 kilotonnes, down 6.7% from August 1997. The year-to-date production figure stood at 50 419 kilotonnes, down 1.8%.

Exports in August increased 7.2% from August 1997 to 3 393 kilotonnes, as producers had accumulated higher port inventories in 1997. While exports to Asia increased 6.2% from 1997, exports to Japan (the largest consumer of Canadian coal) decreased 8.7% to 1 277 kilotonnes during the same period. Year-to-date figures show total exports of 23 485 kilotonnes, 3.4% below last year's level.

Coke production decreased to 274 kilotonnes, down 4.5% from August 1997.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 9.

The August 1998 issue of *Coal and coke statistics* (45-002-XPB, \$12/\$114) will be available the first week of November. See *How to order publications*.

For further information, or to enquire about the methods, concepts and data quality of this release, contact André Lefebvre (613-951-3560; alefeba@statcan.ca), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Electric power statistics

August 1998

Net generation of electricity increased to 45 868 gigawatt hours, up 5.5% from August 1997. Exports increased 17.3% to 5 485 gigawatt hours, and imports increased from 481 gigawatt hours to 1 035 gigawatt hours.

Generation of hydro electricity increased 1.6% to 26 024 gigawatt hours. Thermal conventional generation was up 16.3% to 13 032 gigawatt hours. Thermal conventional generation rose everywhere except Newfoundland and the Yukon. Higher internal demand and constraints on the production from hydraulic sources in a number of provinces are the main reasons for this increase. Generation from nuclear sources was up 2.1% to 6 812 gigawatt hours.

Year-to-date net generation at the end of August 1998 totalled 362 310 gigawatt hours, down 1.6% from the previous year. Year-to-date exports (30 824 gigawatt hours) were up 4.3%, whereas year-to-date imports (10 081 gigawatt hours) rose 106.8% from the previous year.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3987-3999.

The August 1998 issue of *Electric power statistics* (57-001-XPB, \$12/\$114) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information, or to enquire about the methods, concepts and data quality of this release, contact André Lefebvre (613-951-3560; alefeba@statcan.ca), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Construction type plywood

August 1998

Canadian firms produced 142 452 cubic metres of construction type plywood during August 1998, an increase of 0.1% from the 141 002 cubic metres produced during August 1997.

January to August 1998 production totalled 1 155 621 cubic metres, a decrease of 6.8% from the 1 239 257 cubic metres produced during the same period in 1997.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (level 1).

The August 1998 issue of the *Construction type plywood* (35-001-XPB, \$7/\$62) will be available shortly. See *How to order publication*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Gilles Simard, (613-951-3516; simales@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

National economic and financial accounts.

An annual revision of the National economic and financial accounts is available today on CANSIM. Labour Income (matrices 6597-6624) and Government Revenue and Expenditure (matrices 6576-6585) are revised from the first quarter of 1993 to date. The Income and Expenditure Accounts (matrices 6520-6575) are revised from the first quarter of 1993

to date for most matrices and the first quarter of 1961 to date for those with financial accounts (matrices 6524-6528, 6532-6533, 6550-6554, 6558-6559). The Financial Flow Accounts (matrices 701-726, 728-735, 737-744, 748-750, 796-797), revised from the first quarter of 1961 to date, will be available on CANSIM on Monday, November 2.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 6597-6624, 6576-6585, 6520-6575, 6524-6528, 6532-6533, 6550-6554, 6558-6559, 701-726, 728-735, 737-744, 748-750, 796-797.

For further information on this release, contact Karen Wilson (613-951-0439), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division, Statistics Canada. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Infomat - A weekly review

Catalogue number 11-002-XIE

(Canada: \$3/\$109; outside Canada: US\$3/US\$109).

Infomat - A weekly review

Catalogue number 11-002-XPE

(Canada: \$4/\$145; outside Canada: US\$4/US\$145).

Crude petroleum and natural gas production,

July 1998

Catalogue number 26-006-XPB

(Canada: \$19/\$186; outside Canada: US\$19/US\$186).

Asphalt roofing, September 1998

Catalogue number 45-001-XPB

(Canada: \$7/\$62; outside Canada: US\$7/US\$62).

Refined petroleum products, July 1998

Catalogue number 45-004-XPB

(Canada: \$21/\$206; outside Canada: US\$21/US\$206).

Road motor vehicles, Fuel sales 1997

Catalogue number 53-218-XIB

(Canada: \$21; outside Canada: US\$21).

Gas utilities, July 1998

Catalogue number 55-002-XPB

(Canada: \$17/\$165; outside Canada: US\$17/US\$165).

Energy statistics handbook, October 1998

Catalogue number 57-601-UPB

(Canada: \$387; outside Canada: US\$387).

Energy statistics handbook, October 1998

Catalogue number 57-601-XDE

(Canada: \$284; outside Canada: US\$284).

Farm input price index, First quarter 1998

Catalogue number 62-004-XPB

(Canada: \$25/\$83; outside Canada: US\$25/US\$83).

New motor vehicles sales, August 1998

Catalogue number 63-007-XIB

(Canada: \$13/\$124; outside Canada: US\$13/US\$124).

All prices exclude sales tax.

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Thursday, June 9, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.



MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1995, each Canadian took an average of about 65 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 noticeably weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow nominal growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **High-wire index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 2
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 13
- **EGG predictor, April 1997** 12

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

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Editor: Duncan Currie (613-951-1103, currdun@statcan.ca)

Head of Official Release: Chantal Prévost (613-951-1088, prevcha@statcan.ca)

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RELEASE DATES: NOVEMBER 1998

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
2	Business Conditions Survey: Canadian manufacturing industries	October 1998
3	Building permits	September 1998
5	Help-wanted Index	October 1998
6	Labour Force Survey	October 1998
10	New Housing Price Index	September 1998
16	New motor vehicle sales	September 1998
17	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	September 1998
17	Travel between Canada and other countries	September 1998
18	Canadian international merchandise trade	September 1998
19	Consumer Price Index	October 1998
19	Wholesale trade	September 1998
20	Retail trade	September 1998
20	Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises	Third quarter 1998
20	1999 Release dates	1999
23	Homeowner Repair and Renovation Survey	1996
24	Canada's international transactions in securities	September 1998
24	Employment Insurance	September 1998
25	Industrial Product Price Index	October 1998
25	Raw Materials Price Index	October 1998
25	Composite Index	October 1998
26	Farm cash receipts	Third quarter 1998
26	Net farm income	1997 (revised)
27	International travel account	Third quarter 1998
27	Characteristics of international travellers	Second quarter 1998
27	Employment, earnings and hours	September 1998
30	National economic and financial accounts	Third quarter 1998
30	Balance of international payments	Third quarter 1998
30	Gross domestic product by industry at factor cost	September 1998

Use the command "DATES" to retrieve this calendar from CANSIM.