



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Wednesday, November 4, 1998**

For release at 8:30 a.m.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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There are no major releases today.

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## OTHER RELEASES

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Farm Financial Survey, 1997	4

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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Short-term Expectations Survey

The short-term expectations survey results covering the fourth quarter show that little change is expected in the performance of the economy over the three months.

In August, the mean forecast for gross domestic product was 0.1% compared with actual growth of 0.7%. Little change is expected for September and October, with mean monthly growth of 0.0% and 0.1%, respectively. These rates, which are considerably below those expected earlier in the year, reflect the recent slowing of the economy.

Forecasts for international trade show that stability is expected from September through November. The forecasted mean trade surplus for these three months is \$1.9 billion, a slightly lower balance than the actual figure for August of \$2.1 billion. The forecasts for both exports and imports were lower than the actual figures for August.

Forecasters are also expecting little change in the Consumer Price Index over the October to

December period, but the forecasts have been adjusted downwards slightly each month. Actual inflation has been lower than expected. The forecasted average for September was 0.9%, compared with the actual rate of 0.7%.

The unemployment rate was steady at 8.3% for September while the participation rate grew to 65.2%. Forecasters are expecting higher unemployment during October, November and December, with mean forecasts of 8.4%, 8.5% and 8.5% respectively, along with lower participation rates.

The next release will be on December 2, 1998. For further information or for a set of tables, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Jenny Grenier (613-951-1020; fax: 613-951-1572; [grenjen@statcan.ca](mailto:grenjen@statcan.ca)), Small Business and Special Surveys Division. ☐

## Short-term Expectations Survey

	Forecasts					Actual figures	
	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Aug.	Sept.
	year/year %						
<b>Consumer Price Index</b>							
Initial forecast	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.7
First revision	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9	..	...	...
Second revision	1.1	0.9	0.8	..	..	...	...
	seasonally adjusted %						
<b>Unemployment rate</b>							
Initial forecast	8.3	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.3	8.3
First revision	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.5	..	...	...
Second revision	8.4	8.4	8.4	..	..	...	...
<b>Labour force participation rate</b>							
Initial forecast	65.1	65.0	64.9	64.9	65.0	64.9	65.2
First revision	65.0	65.0	64.9	65.1	..	...	...
Second revision	65.0	64.9	65.1	..	..	...	...
	\$ billion						
<b>Exports</b>							
Initial forecast	26.2	26.7	25.7	26.9	..	27.4	..
First revision	26.6	25.7	27.0	..	..	...	...
Second revision	25.6	27.1	..	..	..	...	...
<b>Imports</b>							
Initial forecast	24.3	24.4	24.3	25.0	..	25.3	..
First revision	24.5	24.3	25.1	..	..	...	...
Second revision	24.3	25.1	..	..	..	...	...
<b>Balance</b>							
Initial forecast	1.9	2.3	1.4	1.9	..	2.1	..
First revision	2.1	1.4	1.9	..	..	...	...
Second revision	1.3	2.0	..	..	..	...	...
	seasonally adjusted month/month %, constant \$1992						
<b>Gross domestic product</b>							
Initial forecast	0.5	0.1	0.1	..	..	0.7	..
First revision	0.2	0.0	..	..	..	...	...
Second revision	0.1	..	..	..	..	...	...

.. Not available.

... Not applicable.

## Non-residential building construction price indexes

Third quarter 1998

The composite price index for non-residential building construction (1992=100) for the third quarter of 1998 stands at 112.5, up 0.4% over the previous quarter and 1.8% higher compared with the same quarter one year ago.

Between the second and third quarter of 1998 the index for both Montréal and Toronto increased by 0.6%,

followed by Ottawa (+0.5%), Halifax, Edmonton and Vancouver (+0.2%) and Calgary (+0.1%).

Non-residential building construction price indexes provide an indication of changes in construction costs in seven major urban areas across Canada (Halifax, Montréal, Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver). Three construction categories (industrial, commercial and institutional buildings) are represented by selected models (a light factory building, an office building, a warehouse, a shopping centre and a school).

Besides the city indexes and seven city composites, a further breakdown of the changes in costs is available by trade group (structural, architectural, mechanical and electrical) within the building types. These price indexes are derived from surveys of general and special trade group contractors. They report data on various categories of costs (material, labour, equipment, taxes, overhead and profit) relevant to the detailed construction specifications included in the surveys.

### Non-residential building construction price indexes

Third quarter 1998, (1992=100)

	Third quarter 1998	Third quarter 1997 to third quarter 1998	Second to third quarter 1998
		% change	
<b>Composite</b>	<b>112.5</b>	<b>1.8%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>
Halifax	104.5	1.4	0.2
Montréal	110.2	1.8	0.6
Ottawa	111.2	2.0	0.5
Toronto	113.2	1.9	0.6
Calgary	112.9	2.2	0.1
Edmonton	112.7	2.1	0.2
Vancouver	115.0	1.8	0.2

Available on CANSIM: matrix 9930-9931.

The third quarter 1998 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79) 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 Robert Gamson (613-951-3350, fax: 613-951-1539; [gamsrob@statcan.ca](mailto:gamsrob@statcan.ca)), Client Services Unit, Prices Division. ■

### Cement

September 1998

Manufacturers shipped 1 365 137 tonnes of cement in September, up 1.8% from 1 340 877 (revised) tonnes in September 1997, and up 5.7% from 1 291 184 (revised) tonnes in August 1998.

For January to September 1998, shipments totalled 8 938 139 tonnes (revised), up 2.9% from 8 687 512 (revised) tonnes during the same period in 1997.

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

The September 1998 issue of *Cement* (44-001-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](mailto:saineti@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

### Farm Financial Survey

1997

The Farm Financial Survey, an initiative by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and Statistics Canada, provides data on farm assets, liabilities, capital investments and capital sales for 1997. Custom data requests are available at the following levels: by region, farm type and revenue class, on a cost recovery basis.

The Farm Financial Survey publication will be available free of charge on Statistics Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Internet sites in December.

For custom data requests, contact Client Services (613-951-5027; Internet: [agriculture@statcan.ca](mailto:agriculture@statcan.ca)), Agriculture Division. For general information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Phil Stevens (613-951-2435; [stevphi@statcan.ca](mailto:stevphi@statcan.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

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## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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**Production and disposition of tobacco products,**  
September 1998

**Catalogue number 32-022-XPB**

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

**Exports by commodity,** August 1998

**Catalogue number 65-004-XMB**

(Canada: \$37/\$361; outside Canada: US\$37/US\$361).

**Exports by commodity,** August 1998

**Catalogue number 65-004-XPB**

(Canada: \$78/\$773; outside Canada: US\$78/US\$773).

**Canada's international transactions in securities,**  
August 1998

**Catalogue number 67-002-XPB**

(Canada: \$18/\$176; outside Canada: US\$18/US\$176).

**Science statistics: Service bulletin,** Estimation of  
research and development in the higher education  
sector, 1996/97, Vol. 22, no. 7

**Catalogue number 88-001-XIB**

(Canada: \$18/\$176; outside Canada: US\$18/US\$176).

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microfiche; and -XPB or -XPE denote a paper version.

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


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Thursday, June 3, 1997 For release at 8:30 a.m.	
<b>MAJOR RELEASES</b>	
• <b>Urban transit, 1995</b> Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1995, each Canadian took an average of about 40 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.	2
• <b>Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995</b> Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was notably weak again in 1995 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow nominal growth during the year.	4
<b>OTHER RELEASES</b>	
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Short-term Expectations Survey	2
Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997	12
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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 access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at <http://www.statcan.ca>. To receive *The Daily* each morning by E-mail, send an E-mail message to [listproc@statcan.ca](mailto:listproc@statcan.ca). Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

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

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

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