



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, December 24, 1998

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Gross domestic product by industry at factor cost, October 1998** 2
Economic activity edged up 0.2% in October, sustained in large part by post-strike recoveries in auto manufacturing, air transportation and education. Excluding these three industries, activity in the rest of the economy fell 0.3%.

OTHER RELEASES

Steel primary forms, week ending December 19, 1998	5
Production and disposition of tobacco products, November 1998	5
Coal and coke statistics, October 1998	5

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED	6
------------------------------	----------

RELEASE DATES: January 1999	7
------------------------------------	----------

Season's greetings

The *Daily* will not be published December 25 through January 4. Publication will resume on January 5. Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season from the staff of The *Daily*.



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

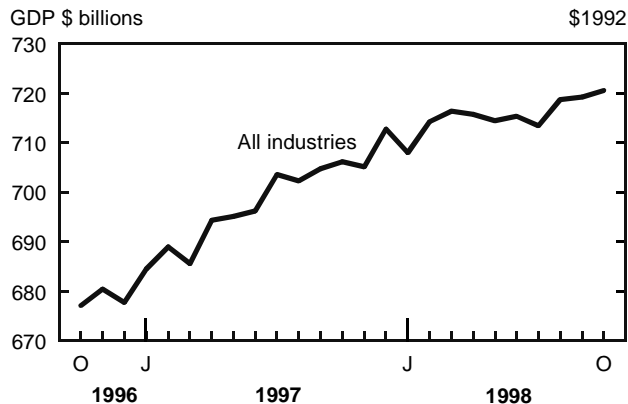
MAJOR RELEASES

Gross domestic product by industry at factor cost

October 1998

Economic activity edged up 0.2% in October, sustained in large part by post-strike recoveries in auto manufacturing, air transportation and education. Excluding these three industries, activity in the rest of the economy fell 0.3%. October's growth in total GDP was the third straight monthly increase, following a four-month stretch of weakness. Growth in 1998, while generally maintaining an upward trend, has slackened considerably from 1997's steeper pace. Weakness so far this year has been concentrated in the goods-producing sector of the economy.

Economy edges up on strength of strike recoveries



hardware and tools, and fabricated metal structures both fell.

Production of machinery fell 4.1%, the sixth decline in eight months. While a steep drop in the agricultural machinery industry was mainly due to temporary shutdowns, output has followed a downward trend for over a year. Makers of construction equipment also reported their seventh negative month of 1998. Overall, production of machinery is off more than 18% from its October 1997 peak. While exports of machinery have generally remained robust, domestic investment in these goods has fallen off sharply after 1997's heady expansion.

Output of electrical and electronic products slipped 0.6% in October. Production of computers and other office machines fell the most, as an industry restructuring continued. Makers of communication and wire and other electronic products also curtailed output. These declines were partly offset by increased production of telecommunications equipment for the second month in a row.

End to airline strike lifted transportation services

The end to a strike by Air Canada pilots as well as extensive seat sales led a 2.8% increase in the transportation and storage services industry in October. Activity in the air transport industry soared by 21.5%, surpassing August's pre-strike level by a wide margin. Trucking and rail transportation services, which had advanced during the September strike, edged up in October.

Ontario teachers went back to work

Education services rose 1.6%, as back-to-work legislation put an end to strikes and lockouts in several Ontario school districts at the end of September. The latest labour disruption was much smaller in scope than the one caused by last year's Ontario teachers' strike.

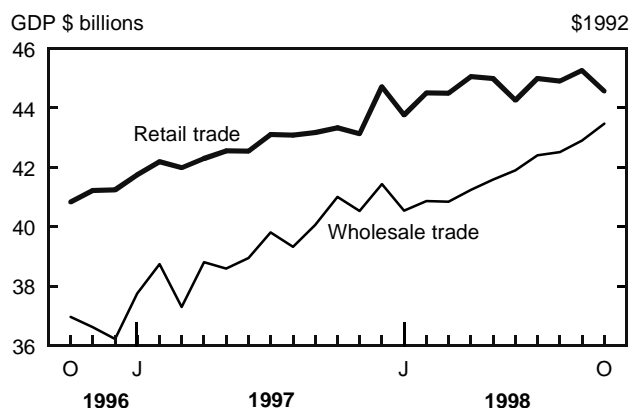
Wholesale up, retail down

Wholesaling activity advanced 1.3% in October. Increased sales of computers and related products were partly offset by reduced activity at distributors of furniture, fuel and other goods. The latest increase was the seventh in as many months, and extended the strong growth observed since a slowdown in the January-March period.

Retail activity slumped 1.6%, pulled down by lower automobile sales after the expiry of dealer incentives that had stimulated sales in September. Retail activity has faltered in recent months after growing at a healthy

pace in 1996 and 1997. Grocery stores, gas stations and liquor stores also reported lower activity in October, while home and auto supply stores, and other food stores enjoyed moderate gains.

Retail, wholesale move in opposite directions



Poor global conditions continued to pressure mining sector

Excess supply and weak demand in world commodity markets led to a 1.6% fall in mining activity, the ninth decline so far in 1998. Production levels have dropped over 8% from peak levels reached at the end of last year. Decade-low oil prices continued to erode drilling and exploration activity, while lower production of metals such as copper, nickel and zinc paralleled price declines for all three metals to new multi-year lows. These declines were partly offset by a small increase in the production of crude petroleum and natural gas, and by a rise in output of other non-metal mines as new diamond mining in the Northwest Territories came onstream.

Warm weather reduced energy consumption

Warmer-than-usual weather led to another weak month for electric and gas utilities, as the industry's output fell 2.3% in October. Environment Canada reported that average temperatures in September, October and November were the warmest in decades. Temporary closures by large industrial users in October also contributed to the decline in demand for electrical power.

Other industries

A significant drop in the volume of stocks traded weighed heavily on the finance industries and led to a decline in activity. Real estate agents also experienced a slowdown; falling sales of existing homes in Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia were partly to blame. Construction activity changed little, after a modest recovery from summer strikes in August and September. Computer services providers were busier in October, reporting a 1.7% rise in activity.

The October 1998 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 methods, concepts and data quality of this release, contact Richard Evans (613-951-9145; evanric@statcan.ca). For information about the purchase of data, contact Kim Lauzon (613-951-9417; lauzonk@statcan.ca), Industry Measures and Analysis Division.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 4677-4681.

Gross domestic product at factor cost by industry, at 1992 prices

	May 1998 ^r	June 1998 ^r	July 1998 ^r	Aug. 1998 ^r	Sept. 1998 ^r	Oct. 1998 ^p	Sept. to Oct. 1998	Oct. 1998	Oct. 1997 to Oct. 1998
seasonally adjusted									
	month-to-month % change						\$ change ¹	\$ level ¹	% change
Overall economic activity	-0.2	0.1	-0.3	0.7	0.1	0.2	1326	720,530	2.0
Goods-producing industries	-0.4	-0.2	-1.3	1.9	-0.2	0.0	-7	236,148	0.6
Agriculture	0.2	-0.4	0.4	0.4	-0.3	0.7	81	11,852	-0.1
Fishing and trapping	-0.6	-3.5	-2.4	-7.9	0.1	-3.7	-25	643	-13.6
Logging and forestry	-3.9	0.7	2.7	3.2	-3.1	2.7	122	4,680	-5.3
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	-1.2	-0.3	-1.0	-0.8	-1.1	-1.6	-446	26,633	-6.7
Manufacturing	-0.2	-0.6	-2.0	3.1	0.4	0.7	866	129,099	3.0
Construction	-0.4	-0.5	-1.0	0.9	0.6	-0.1	-39	39,434	1.7
Other utilities	0.0	2.8	-0.2	1.5	-2.7	-2.3	-566	23,807	-2.9
Services-producing industries	-0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	1333	484,382	2.7
Transportation and storage	-0.7	0.2	-0.7	0.7	-1.0	2.8	893	32,713	1.5
Communications	0.0	1.2	0.6	1.6	1.3	0.9	217	24,670	8.8
Wholesale trade	0.8	0.7	1.2	0.2	0.9	1.3	566	43,472	6.0
Retail trade	-0.1	-1.6	1.7	-0.2	0.8	-1.6	-702	44,561	2.8
Finance and insurance	-1.1	2.3	-0.4	0.0	0.1	-0.7	-278	39,810	1.2
Real estate and insurance agent	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	-0.1	-116	79,173	1.7
Business services	0.5	0.7	0.0	0.6	0.7	0.2	82	41,354	5.8
Government services	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	-15	42,723	0.4
Education	-0.1	0.1	-0.2	-0.9	-0.6	1.6	650	40,156	3.5
Health and social services	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.1	57	48,568	0.8
Accommodation and food	-1.5	0.5	0.3	-0.2	-0.7	0.2	38	18,462	1.6
Other services	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.2	0.3	-0.2	-59	28,720	1.7
Other aggregations									
Industrial production	-0.4	-0.1	-1.6	2.3	-0.2	-0.1	-146	179,539	0.7
Non-durable manufacturing	0.2	-0.3	-1.0	1.5	-0.1	-0.1	-63	56,578	1.6
Durable manufacturing	-0.6	-0.8	-2.8	4.4	0.8	1.3	929	72,521	4.1
Business sector	-0.2	0.2	-0.3	0.9	0.1	0.1	691	594,635	2.2
Non-business sector	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.5	635	125,895	1.4

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

¹ Millions of dollars at annual rate.

OTHER RELEASES

Steel primary forms

Week ending December 19, 1998 (Preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending December 19, 1998 totalled 285 290 tonnes, down 0.6% from the week-earlier 287 001 tonnes and down 1.1% from the year-earlier 288 551 tonnes. The cumulative total at the end of the week was 15 329 913 tonnes, a 2.7% increase compared with 14 920 476 tonnes for the same period in 1997.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-7093; milsomg@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Production and disposition of tobacco products

November 1998

Canadian tobacco product manufacturers slightly lowered cigarette production in November. As in October, however, numbers produced stayed well ahead of numbers shipped. As well, volume was practically the same as in October. Unsold production further bolstered normally high inventories in preparation for holiday season sales.

November production of 4.7 billion cigarettes declined 3% compared with October and was also 5% below November 1997 numbers. Year-to-date production reached 45 billion cigarettes, which was the same level as at the end of November 1997.

During November, 3.9 billion cigarettes were shipped, similar to October but 11% more than in November 1997. Year-to-date shipments of 44 billion cigarettes were 1% ahead of a year earlier.

Inventories had been brought down from 6.2 billion cigarettes in May and June, to 3.5 billion at the end of September. They rose in October to 3.9 billion and were further strengthened in November to 4.8 billion. November's inventories increased 21% compared with October but were still 13% below the closing level at the same time last year.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 46.

The November 1998 issue of *Production and disposition of tobacco products* (32-022-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 Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511; zylspet@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Coal and coke statistics

October 1998

Coal production declined in all provinces except New Brunswick. Production totalled 6 420 kilotonnes, down 8.0% from October 1997. The decline was steepest in Nova Scotia, where production was 16% of the October 1997 level due to production problems. The year-to-date production figure stood at 62 907 kilotonnes, down 3.7% from the same period in 1997.

Exports decreased 9.0% from October 1997 to 2 541 kilotonnes. The main reason was a sharp 47.9% decline in exports to Japan (the largest consumer of Canadian coal) to 1 019 kilotonnes. Year-to-date figures show total exports of 29 002 kilotonnes, 4.1% below last year's level.

Coke production decreased to 262 kilotonnes, down 12.3% from October 1997.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 9.

The October 1998 issue of *Coal and coke statistics* (45-002-XPB, \$12/\$114) will be available in early January 1999. 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. ■

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).

Restaurant, caterer and tavern statistics, May to

December 1997, vol. 30 no. 6

Catalogue number 63-011-XPB

(Canada: \$8/\$73; outside Canada: US\$8/US\$73).

Focus on culture, Autumn 1998

Catalogue number 87-004-XPB

(Canada: \$9/\$27; outside Canada: US\$9/US\$27).

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.

How to order publications

Simplify your data search with the *Statistics Canada Catalogue* (11-204-XPE, \$16; outside Canada: US\$16).

Its keyword index will guide you to statistics on Canada's social and economic activity.

Order publications by phone:

Please refer to the • Title • Catalogue number • Volume number • Issue number • Your VISA or MasterCard number.

In Canada and the United States call:

1-800-267-6677

From other countries call:

1-613-951-7277

To fax your order:

1-800-889-9734

Address changes or account inquiries:

1-800-700-1033

Internet:


order@statcan.ca

To order a publication by mail write: Statistics Canada, Circulation Management, Operations and Integration Division, Ottawa, K1A 0T6.

Include a cheque or money order payable to **Receiver General of Canada/Publications**. Canadian customers add 7% GST and applicable PST.

Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.

Catalogue 11-001E (if applicable 11-001E/11-001E/11-001E/11-001E)



Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 3, 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 1995, each Canadian took an average of about 20 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, steel ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **Egg production, April 1997** 12

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

11

Canada

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 lstproc@statcan.ca. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Editor: Dan Smythe (613-951-1103, smytdan@statcan.ca)

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

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 1998. Citation in newsprint, magazine, radio, and television reporting is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source. Any other reproduction is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source on all copies as follows: Statistics Canada, *The Daily*, catalogue 11-001E, along with date and page references.

RELEASE DATES: JANUARY 1999

(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
5	National tourism indicators	Third quarter 1998
6	Industrial product price index	November 1998
6	Raw materials price index	November 1998
7	Help-wanted index	December 1998
8	Labour Force Survey	December 1998
12	Health Reports	Winter 1998
12	Building permits	November 1998
12	New housing price index	November 1998
13	Innovation in dynamic service industries	1996
15	Spending on entertainment services	1986-1996
15	New motor vehicle sales	November 1998
19	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	November 1998
19	Travel between Canada and other countries	November 1998
20	Consumer price index	December 1998
20	Wholesale trade	November 1998
21	Canadian international merchandise trade	November 1998
21	Composite index	December 1998
22	Retail trade	November 1998
25	Canada's international transactions in securities	November 1998
26	Employment insurance	November 1998
27	Labour Force Update	, 1998
28	Industrial product price index	December 1998
28	Raw materials price index	December 1998
28	Employment, earnings and hours	November 1998
29	Real gross domestic product at factor cost by industry	November 1998

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