

Thursday, May 21, 1998
For release at 8:30 a.m.

## MAJOR RELEASES

- Retail trade, March 1998

With a marginal advance in March, retailers experienced the smallest quarterly increase in sales since the first quarter of 1996.

- Port activity, 1997

Led by Vancouver, Canada's ports handled a record amount of international cargo in 1997. The growth in international cargo pushed the total tonnage handled by the ports to its highest level in nine years.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

## Retail trade

March 1998
Retail sales in March advanced $0.2 \%$ to $\$ 20.1$ billion. This followed an upward-revised $0.9 \%$ increase in February. Sales in the first quarter of 1998 advanced $0.8 \%$ from the last quarter of 1997-the smallest quarterly increase since the first quarter of 1996.


The large upward revision to February sales was due to the receipt of revised data from a number of motor and recreational vehicle dealers in Quebec.

Although the ice storm dampened January sales in Quebec, Ontario and New Brunswick, retailers in all of these provinces had first-quarter sales advances larger than the national average. Retailers in Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia experienced declining sales in the first quarter of 1998.

Retailers have generally been experiencing rising sales since the spring of 1995 , with a period of strong growth from the fall of 1996 to the summer of 1997. Since then, the growth has been slowing along with a loss of strength in the automotive sector. Despite the sagging auto sales, most sectors have continued to experience solid growth. Excluding motor and recreational vehicle dealers, sales advanced $2.2 \%$ from the fourth quarter of 1997 to the first quarter of 1998.

The run-up in retail sales in the fall of 1996 coincided with significant growth in consumer credit. Despite rising interest rates over the past six months, consumer bankruptcies in February 1998 (the most


#### Abstract

Note to readers The retail trade data are being revised for the period from January 1991 to March 1998. The revisions will be released on June 25 together with the April 1998 preliminary figures.


recent month for which data are available) had fallen $24.5 \%$ from their peak in April 1997. However, employment has started to post steady gains, rising by 3.4\% between February 1997 and March 1998.

## Furniture stores led March sales

The furniture sector led the advance in retail sales in March. Other sectors posted more marginal changes in sales.

Sales in the furniture sector increased $1.0 \%$ in March, ending a strong first quarter ( $+3.2 \%$ ). This strong advance continued the pattern of strong growth experienced by furniture retailers since the spring of 1996. The run-up in sales at the start of this period was due to household furniture and appliance stores. During the past two quarters, however, household furnishings stores have been posting stronger advances.

Rising sales in clothing stores in March ( $+0.5 \%$ ) ended a strong first quarter. The $2.4 \%$ increase in sales in the first quarter of 1998 was the largest quarterly advance since the third quarter of 1994. Clothing store sales have generally been rising since the start of 1996, with sales accelerating in early 1998.

The automotive sector posted a marginal increase in March ( $+0.2 \%$ ), not enough to offset the sales declines of automotive retailers in January and February. The first quarter's $1.9 \%$ retreat in sales was the first quarterly decline since the fourth quarter of 1994. Higher sales by automotive parts and accessories stores were overcome by the declining sales of motor and recreational vehicle dealers and gasoline service stations. Sales in the automotive sector, which had been rising since the spring of 1995, have been flat since the summer of 1997.

Drugstores posted March's largest sales decline. Despite March's $0.5 \%$ decline, drugstore sales in the first quarter of 1998 were $2.4 \%$ higher than in the previous quarter. Drugstores have been experiencing slow but steady growth since early 1995.

General merchandise stores also posted a sales decline in March ( $-0.3 \%$ ). Advances in department stores ( $+1.2 \%$ ) were not enough to offset a $2.5 \%$ decline in other general merchandise stores. Despite

March's decline, sales in the first quarter of 1998 gained a strong $2.9 \%$, continuing a general pattern of strong growth since the summer of 1993.

## Ice storm failed to dampen Quebec's quarterly sales

Even though the ice storm contributed to the $5.6 \%$ decline in Quebec's retail sales in January, retail sales in Quebec advanced $1.2 \%$ for the first quarter of 1998. Declines in the furniture and the automotive sectors did not offset strong advances in other sectors. Prior to this strong quarterly advance, retail sales had levelled off in the second half of 1997, after posting impressive gains from the second half of 1996.

Retailers in Atlantic Canada saw the strongest increases in sales in the first quarter of $1998(+2.3 \%)$. All the Atlantic provinces experienced broad-based advances in sales in the first quarter. Even with a pause in the last quarter of 1997, retail sales in Atlantic Canada have been rising since the spring of 1997.

Sales in Ontario continued to advance at a fast clip in the first quarter of $1998(+1.8 \%)$. Sales in the first quarter were led by furniture and clothing stores. This continued the strong pattern of growth that has been observed in Ontario since the start of 1996.

Retailers in the Prairie provinces posted their first quarterly sales decline ( $-0.3 \%$ ) since the fourth quarter of 1995. Weakness in the automotive sector affected an otherwise strong pattern of growth in these provinces. The weak first quarter followed strong
advances in sales in the Prairie provinces, particularly in Saskatchewan and Alberta, throughout most of 1996 and 1997.

British Columbia's retailers experienced a broadbased sales decline in the first quarter of 1998, down 2.1\% from the last quarter of 1997. Apart from a break in the retail trade data series, due to implementation of the GST, this was the biggest quarterly drop in sales for British Columbian retailers since the second quarter of 1982 .

## Related indicators of April sales

Initial estimates indicate an increase in the number of new motor vehicles sold in April. The number of employees in retail trade rose $1.0 \%$ in April from the previous month. Total employment rose $0.5 \%$ in the same period. The number of housing starts in April declined $8.1 \%$ from March.

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

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

For further information on this release, contact Chantal Mclvor (613-951-3549; logener@statcan.ca). For analytical information, contact Greg Peterson (613-951-3592; petegre@statcan.ca), Retail Trade Section, Distributive Trades Division.

Retail sales

| Trade group | $\begin{array}{r} \hline \text { March } \\ 1997 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { Dec. } \\ & 1997{ }^{\text {r }} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Jan. } \\ 1998^{r} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { Feb. } \\ 1998^{r} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { March } \\ 1998^{\text {p }} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Feb. } \\ 1998 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { March } \\ 1998 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \hline \text { March } \\ 1997 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { March } \\ 1998 \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | \$ millions |  |  |  |  | \% change |  |
| Food | 4,664 | 4,746 | 4,757 | 4,762 | 4,772 | 0.2 | 2.3 |
| Supermarkets and grocery stores | 4,319 | 4,401 | 4,419 | 4,419 | 4,432 | 0.3 | 2.6 |
| All other food stores | 346 | 345 | 338 | 343 | 340 | -0.9 | -1.7 |
| Drug and patent medicine stores | 1,044 | 1,076 | 1,078 | 1,107 | 1,102 | -0.5 | 5.5 |
| Clothing | 1,079 | 1,117 | 1,105 | 1,151 | 1,156 | 0.5 | 7.1 |
| Shoe stores | 129 | 140 | 142 | 148 | 142 | -3.8 | 9.8 |
| Men's clothing stores | 133 | 133 | 135 | 136 | 135 | -0.3 | 1.4 |
| Women's clothing stores | 351 | 356 | 342 | 364 | 376 | 3.4 | 7.2 |
| Other clothing stores | 465 | 488 | 486 | 503 | 502 | -0.2 | 8.0 |
| Furniture | 951 | 1,043 | 1,026 | 1,046 | 1,056 | 1.0 | 11.0 |
| Household furniture and appliance stores | 737 | 800 | 785 | 804 | 812 | 1.1 | 10.1 |
| Household furnishings stores | 214 | 243 | 241 | 243 | 244 | 0.6 | 14.0 |
| Automotive | 7,138 | 7,874 | 7,473 | 7,445 | 7,458 | 0.2 | 4.5 |
| Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers | 4,635 | 5,414 | 4,990 | 4,967 | 4,973 | 0.1 | 7.3 |
| Gasoline service stations | 1,376 | 1,321 | 1,290 | 1,286 | 1,294 | 0.7 | -5.9 |
| Automotive parts, accessories and services | 1,128 | 1,139 | 1,193 | 1,192 | 1,190 | -0.1 | 5.6 |
| General merchandise stores | 2,109 | 2,240 | 2,271 | 2,309 | 2,303 | -0.3 | 9.2 |
| Retail stores not elsewhere classified | 1,957 | 2,144 | 2,170 | 2,237 | 2,243 | 0.3 | 14.6 |
| Other semi-durable goods stores | 638 | 670 | 682 | 703 | 703 | 0.0 | 10.2 |
| Other durable goods stores | 455 | 547 | 534 | 577 | 567 | -1.7 | 24.6 |
| All other retail stores not elsewhere classified | 864 | 927 | 955 | 957 | 973 | 1.6 | 12.6 |
| Total, retail sales | 18,944 | 20,240 | 19,879 | 20,058 | 20,090 | 0.2 | 6.0 |
| Total, excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers | 14,309 | 14,826 | 14,889 | 15,090 | 15,116 | 0.2 | 5.6 |
| Provinces and territories |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newfoundland | 300 | 310 | 309 | 310 | 308 | -0.5 | 2.8 |
| Prince Edward Island | 84 | 89 | 88 | 90 | 88 | -1.8 | 5.2 |
| Nova Scotia | 583 | 607 | 597 | 615 | 605 | -1.5 | 3.8 |
| New Brunswick | 434 | 486 | 481 | 477 | 489 | 2.4 | 12.5 |
| Quebec | 4,477 | 4,697 | 4,434 | 4,812 | 4,775 | -0.8 | 6.7 |
| Ontario | 6,880 | 7,479 | 7,417 | 7,453 | 7,491 | 0.5 | 8.9 |
| Manitoba | 695 | 722 | 718 | 709 | 719 | 1.4 | 3.4 |
| Saskatchewan | 619 | 684 | 695 | 641 | 656 | 2.4 | 5.9 |
| Alberta | 2,114 | 2,317 | 2,316 | 2,218 | 2,207 | -0.5 | 4.4 |
| British Columbia | 2,691 | 2,779 | 2,751 | 2,665 | 2,681 | 0.6 | -0.4 |
| Yukon | 25 | 26 | 27 | 25 | 26 | 4.3 | 4.3 |
| Northwest Territories | 42 | 45 | 45 | 45 | 46 | 2.1 | 8.4 |

[^0]The Daily, May 21, 1998

Retail sales

| Trade group | $\begin{array}{r} \hline \text { March } \\ 1997 \end{array}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Feb. } \\ 1998^{r} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \hline \text { March } \\ 1998^{\text {p }} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \hline \text { March } \\ 1997 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { March } \\ 1998 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | unadjusted |  |  |  |
|  | \$ millions |  |  | change |
| Food | 4,518 | 4,248 | 4,479 | -0.9 |
| Supermarkets and grocery stores | 4,182 | 3,948 | 4,168 | -0.3 |
| All other food stores | 336 | 300 | 311 | -7.4 |
| Drug and patent medicine stores | 1,006 | 1,011 | 1,058 | 5.2 |
| Clothing | 877 | 748 | 939 | 7.1 |
| Shoe stores | 101 | 87 | 107 | 6.2 |
| Men's clothing stores | 99 | 85 | 100 | 0.4 |
| Women's clothing stores | 283 | 243 | 305 | 7.9 |
| Other clothing stores | 394 | 333 | 427 | 8.4 |
| Furniture | 838 | 812 | 952 | 13.7 |
| Household furniture and appliance stores | 650 | 626 | 733 | 12.7 |
| Household furnishings stores | 188 | 187 | 219 | 17.0 |
| Automotive | 6,607 | 6,034 | 7,377 | 11.7 |
| Motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers | 4,366 | 3,984 | 5,104 | 16.9 |
| Gasoline service stations | 1,292 | 1,131 | 1,225 | -5.1 |
| Automotive parts, accessories and services | 949 | 919 | 1,047 | 10.4 |
| General merchandise stores | 1,803 | 1,629 | 1,932 | 7.2 |
| Retail stores not elsewhere classified | 1,597 | 1,630 | 1,771 | 10.9 |
| Other semi-durable goods stores | 492 | 502 | 535 | 8.8 |
| Other durable goods stores | 357 | 398 | 434 | 21.6 |
| All other retail stores not elsewhere classified | 749 | 730 | 802 | 7.2 |
| Total, retail sales | 17,245 | 16,112 | 18,508 | 7.3 |
| Total, excluding motor vehicle and recreational vehicle dealers | 12,879 | 12,128 | 13,404 | 4.1 |
| Provinces and territories |  |  |  |  |
| Newfoundland | 271 | 239 | 279 | 3.1 |
| Prince Edward Island | 72 | 67 | 75 | 5.2 |
| Nova Scotia | 530 | 489 | 550 | 3.8 |
| New Brunswick | 385 | 366 | 434 | 12.8 |
| Quebec | 4,087 | 3,832 | 4,396 | 7.6 |
| Ontario | 6,151 | 5,975 | 6,852 | 11.4 |
| Manitoba | 632 | 566 | 666 | 5.4 |
| Saskatchewan | 570 | 513 | 588 | 3.1 |
| Alberta | 1,957 | 1,789 | 2,048 | 4.6 |
| British Columbia | 2,527 | 2,221 | 2,553 | 1.0 |
| Yukon | 21 | 18 | 22 | 3.3 |
| Northwest Territories | 41 | 38 | 44 | 9.1 |

[^1]
## Port activity <br> 1997

Led by Vancouver, Canada's ports handled a record amount of international cargo in 1997. The growth in international cargo pushed the total tonnage handled by the ports to its highest level in nine years. Shipments of four bulk commodities-crude oil, coal, iron ore, and wheat-were responsible for the increase in international marine cargo.

Total international cargo reached 282.3 million tonnes, an $8.5 \%$ increase from 1996 and an all-time high. Despite a decline in domestic marine cargo, the total cargo handled reached 375.5 million tonnes in 1997, up 5.0\% over 1996.

## International cargo continues to grow <br> while domestic cargo levels decline



## Port Hawkesbury: centre for trans-shipments of crude oil

Canada's ports handled 38.5 million tonnes of crude oil in 1997, almost $25 \%$ more than in the previous year. This increase was due almost entirely to transshipments of crude oil from Norway and the United Kingdom to the eastern seaboard of the United States. The oil was transported in very large carriers to Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia, where it was stored and then loaded onto smaller tankers that comply with the U.S. Oil Pollution Act of 1990. These oil trans-shipments led to a 7.6 million tonne increase in international cargo through the port in 1997. With this increase, Port Hawkesbury became the number six port in terms of cargo tonnage in 1997, up from 11th position in 1996. Almost all of the crude oil handled in 1997 was shipped internationally.

## Note to readers

Data on international cargo shipments come from Revenue Canada's customs documents. Data on domestic shipments are provided by the shipping companies. The information in this release covers about 200 ports in Canada.

Trans-shipments are foreign cargoes handled at Canadian ports en route to or from a third country.

Containerized cargo is high-value freight carried in a box that is designed to be sent from door to door without the contents being handled. Containers can easily be transferred from ships to trucks or trains for inland distribution. Transporting containerized cargo is labour intensive and requires skilled crane operators, as well as considerable sales and logistics expertise.

Bulk cargo is cargo that conforms to the shape of the vessel in which it is carried; it is normally transported in high volumes. These commodities are usually low-valued.

These data are being released in advance of National Transportation Week.

## Heavy traffic in coal and wheat

Canada's ports handled 52.0 million tonnes of coal and 34.2 million tonnes of wheat in 1997, increases of $8 \%$ and $25 \%$ respectively over 1996 . Almost all of the coal and $60 \%$ of the wheat were shipped internationally.

Strong demand for Canadian coal and wheat in Asia boosted the throughput of these cargoes at West Coast ports. Vancouver loaded 28.3 million tonnes of coal and 8.3 million tonnes of wheat in 1997, increases of $3 \%$ and $7 \%$ over the previous year. Prince Rupert loaded 6.6 million tonnes of coal, 1.5 million tonnes more than in 1996, and 4.0 million tonnes of wheat, 1.4 million tonnes more than in 1996. All of the coal and wheat handled at these ports was exported overseas.

Canada's maritime coal trade is bi-directional: most exports of Canadian coal occur on the West Coast, while most imports are handled at Great Lakes ports. Great Lakes ports received 13.2 million tonnes of coal from U.S. ports on the Great Lakes, $17 \%$ more than in 1996. Most of this increase in inbound coal was unloaded at the ports of Courtright and Nanticoke, Ontario, where it was used for thermal generation of electricity and for making steel.

Over two-thirds of the increase in wheat handled by the ports was due to increased domestic shipments. These domestic movements occurred mainly in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence regions. The port of Thunder Bay handled $53 \%$ more wheat, with 8.1 million tonnes of wheat loaded onto ships, most of which were bound for ports on the lower St. Lawrence. Most of this wheat was then loaded onto ocean-going ships bound for ports overseas. These wheat shipments were a welcome addition to traffic on the Seaway, as Canadian
wheat has increasingly been exported through West Coast ports.

International shipments of iron ore rose almost $10 \%$ to 40.9 million tonnes due to increased exports from Sept-Iles/Pointe-Noire to Europe, particularly the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. The increase in international shipments of iron ore from Sept-Illes/ Pointe-Noire more than offset a decline in domestic shipments. Consequently the port's overall traffic was up $8.4 \%$ from 1996, to 24.5 million tonnes in 1997. This performance was enough to make Sept-Îles/ Pointe-Noire the number two Canadian port in terms of tonnage.

## Vancouver-Canada's busiest port

Vancouver, by far the busiest port in Canada, handled a record 71.8 million tonnes of cargo in 1997. That represented almost one-fifth of the total cargo handled at Canadian ports. Vancouver handles a diverse mix of bulk and containerized cargo. In 1997, it was the number one port in Canada for coal, wheat and sulphur and the number two port for container traffic. International shipments accounted for $99 \%$ of the port's total traffic in 1997. Ninety-two percent of these shipments were outbound to foreign ports.

## Record levels of containerized cargo

The country's three major container portsMontréal, Vancouver and Halifax-handled record levels of containerized cargo in 1997, despite strong competition from U.S. ports. These three ports handled $93 \%$ of the containerized cargo handled at Canadian ports.

Montréal handled 8.2 million tonnes of containerized cargo in 1997. Its location, 1,600 kilometres inland and close to markets in the U.S. Midwest, is a strategic advantage, given that water transport costs one-fifth to one-third that of land transport.

Vancouver handled almost 6.0 million tonnes of containerized cargo in 1997, a $16 \%$ increase over 1996. In 1997, the port opened "the Deltaport", a new multi-million dollar state of the art facility capable of accommodating the largest container ships in service. This new facility appears to have attracted new container lines to the port.

Halifax handled 4.7 million tonnes of containerized cargo, up 17\% from 1996. The port has benefited from the opening of a rail tunnel at Sarnia, which has enabled double-stacked container service through to the U.S. Midwest. Halifax is also the closest major container port to Europe, and it is the port with the deepest water on the Atlantic coast of North America-two features that together make it an obvious last or first port-of-call for large container ships on the Atlantic.

## Marine transport-a significant employer

Canada's marine sector not only facilitates the nation's overseas trade, it is also a significant employer. Approximately 29,500 Canadians work for organizations engaged in water transport or in incidental service industries, such as marine cargo handlers, shipping agents and marine pilots.

These industries pay annual wages and salaries of about $\$ 1.3$ billion, according to Statistics Canada's Survey of Employment, Payroll and Hours. However, this does not represent the total employment in marine activity, since some firms in industries such as petroleum and forest products transport or handle their own products via marine transport.

## Available on CANSIM: matrices 145 and 146.

For information on this release and on Canadian ports, contact Bob Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0579; laroque@statcan.ca ), Transportation Division.

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## Canada's top 10 ports*

| Port | Domestic |  |  | International |  |  | Total |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 1996 | 1997 | $\begin{array}{r} 1996 \\ \text { to } \\ 1997 \end{array}$ | 1996 | 1997 | $\begin{array}{r} 1996 \\ \text { to } \\ 1997 \end{array}$ | 1996 | 1997 | $\begin{array}{r} 1996 \\ \text { to } \\ 1997 \end{array}$ |
|  | '000 tonnes |  | \% change | '000 tonnes |  | \% change | '000 tonnes |  | change |
| Vancouver | 1989 | 999 | -49.8 | 69416 | 70791 | 2.0 | 71405 | 71789 | 0.5 |
| Sept-Îles/Pointe-Noire | 4217 | 3546 | -15.9 | 18367 | 20925 | 13.9 | 22584 | 24471 | 8.4 |
| Port-Cartier | 5132 | 5364 | 4.5 | 16597 | 15513 | -6.5 | 21729 | 20877 | -3.9 |
| Saint John | 1951 | 1998 | 2.4 | 18624 | 18612 | -0.1 | 20575 | 20610 | 0.2 |
| Montréal/Contrecoeur | 5261 | 5606 | 6.6 | 13947 | 15003 | 7.6 | 19208 | 20609 | 7.3 |
| Port Hawkesbury | 33 | 35 | 5.1 | 7852 | 15430 | 96.5 | 7885 | 15465 | 96.1 |
| Québec/Lévis | 3681 | 2577 | -30.0 | 13306 | 12376 | -7.0 | 16987 | 14953 | -12.0 |
| Halifax | 2699 | 2588 | -4.1 | 10884 | 12255 | 12.6 | 13583 | 14842 | 9.3 |
| Thunder Bay | 6565 | 8342 | 27.1 | 3536 | 4507 | 27.4 | 10101 | 12849 | 27.2 |
| Prince Rupert | 14 | 25 | 87.2 | 9438 | 12512 | 32.6 | 9452 | 12538 | 32.7 |
| Sub-total | 31542 | 31080 | -1.5 | 181967 | 197923 | 8.8 | 213509 | 229003 | 7.3 |
| Other ports | 66107 | 62199 | -5.9 | 78118 | 84328 | 7.9 | 144225 | 146528 | 1.6 |
| Total | 97649 | 93280 | -4.5 | 260085 | 282252 | 8.5 | 357734 | 375531 | 5.0 |

* Ranked by total tonnage handled in 1997.


## OTHER RELEASES

## Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation

April 1998
Manufacturers shipped 1943573 square metres of R12 factor (RSI 2.1) mineral wool batts in April, down 8.9\% from 2133207 (revised) square metres a year earlier and a $47.5 \%$ drop from 3700263 square metres a month earlier.

Year-to-date shipments to the end of April 1998 totalled 10810831 square metres, a $57.5 \%$ increase from the same period in 1997.

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

The April 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 on this release, contact Roland Joubert (613-951-3527; rjouber@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

## Annual Survey of Manufactures 1996

The Annual Survey of Manufactures provides information on more than 200 different industries. Principal statistics for each industry are released on CANSIM as they become available. Data for the industries listed in the following table are now available. Data for 212 industries have now been released.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 5382, 5391, 5418, 5430, 5446, 5447, 5479, 5489, 5499, 5517, 5518, 6888 and 6890 .

Data for the industries listed in the table appear in Food industries (32-250-XPB, \$40), Rubber and plastic products industries (33-250-XPB, \$40), Textile products industries (34-251-XPB, \$40), Clothing industries (34-252-XPB, \$40), Paper and allied products industries ( $36-250-\mathrm{XPB}, \$ 40$ ), Printing, publishing and allied industries (36-251-XPB, \$40), Fabricated metal products industries (41-251-XPB, \$40), Manufacturing industries of Canada, national and provincial areas (31-203-XPB, \$68) and Products shipped by Canadian manufacturers (31-211-XPB, $\$ 67$ ). The 1995 issues of most of these publications are now available. See How to order publications.

For further information on this release, look under contacts in the following table (fax: 613-951-9499; pentli@statcan.ca).

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## Value of shipments

|  | 1995 | 1996 | $\begin{array}{r} 1995 \\ \text { to } \\ 1996 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | Publication catalogue number | Contact |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \$ millions |  | change |  |  |  |
| Industry (Standard Industry Classification) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fish products (1021) | 2,974.3 | 2,888.6 | -2.9 | 32-250-XPB | P. Zylstra | 613-951-3511 |
| Biscuits (1071) | 678.6 | 760.3 | 12.0 | 32-250-ХРВ | P. Zylstra | 613-951-3511 |
| Other plastic products, not elsewhere classified (1699) | 4,734.3 | 5,528.0 | 16.8 | 33-250-XPB | N. Charron | 613-951-3510 |
| Natural fibres processing and felt products (1911) | 289.3 | 284.4 | -1.7 | 34-251-XPB | L. Vincent | 613-951-3523 |
| Women's sportswear (2442) | 1,383.7 | 1,439.9 | 4.1 | 34-252-XPB | R. Kowaluk | 613-951-0600 |
| Women's dress (2443) | 314.5 | 328.9 | 4.6 | 34-252-XPB | R. Kowaluk | 613-951-0600 |
| Bed spring and mattress (2691) | 424.3 | 446.3 | 5.2 | 35-251-XPB | E. Saint-Pierre | 613-951-9837 |
| Folding carton and set-up box (2731) | 1,224.6 | 1,313.1 | 7.2 | 36-250-ХРВ | G. Simard | 613-951-3516 |
| Platemaking, typesetting and bindery (2821) | 1,112.7 | 1,151.6 | 3.5 | 36-251-XPB | S. Boyer | 613-951-5669 |
| Metal tanks, heavy gauge (3021) | 503.6 | 536.1 | 6.5 | 41-251-XPB | E. Saint-Pierre | 613-951-9837 |
| Plate work (3022) | 244.7 | 283.9 | 16.0 | 41-251-XPB | E. Saint-Pierre | 613-951-9837 |
| Jewellery and silverware (3921) | 434.2 | 474.2 | 9.2 | 47-250-XPB | S. Boyer | 613-951-5669 |
| Sporting goods (3931) | 1,064.0 | 1,130.3 | 6.2 | 47-250-ХРВ | S. Boyer | 613-951-5669 |

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Canadian economic observer, May 1998 Catalogue number 11-010-XPB
(Canada: \$23/\$227; outside Canada: US\$ 23/US\$227).
Footwear statistics, quarter ended March 1998
Catalogue number 33-002-XPB
(Canada: $\$ 8 / \$ 25$; outside Canada: US\$ 8/US\$25).
Construction type plywood, March 1998
Catalogue number 35-001-XPB
(Canada: \$7/\$62; outside Canada: US\$ 7/US\$62).
Particleboard, oriented strandboard and
fibreboard, March 1998
Catalogue number 36-003-XPB
(Canada: \$7/\$62; outside Canada: US\$ 7/US\$62).
Electric lamps (light bulbs and tubes), March 1998 Catalogue number 43-009-XPB
(Canada: \$7/\$62; outside Canada: US\$ 7/US\$62).

## Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins, March 1998 <br> Catalogue number 46-002-XPB <br> (Canada: \$7/\$62; outside Canada: US\$ 7/US\$62).

Shipments of plastic film and bags manufactured
from resin, quarter ended March 31, 1998 Catalogue number 47-007-XPB
(Canada: \$10/\$33; outside Canada: US\$ 10/US\$33).
Employment earnings and hours, February 1998 Catalogue number 72-002-XPB
(Canada: \$32/\$320; outside Canada: US\$ 32/US\$320).

## 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.



## Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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[^0]:    ${ }^{r}$ Revised figures.
    $p$ Preliminary figures.

[^1]:    ${ }^{r}$ Revised figures
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