



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, September 1, 1998

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

OTHER RELEASES

Department store sales and stocks, July 1998	2
Civil aviation operating statistics, June 1998	3
Asphalt roofing, July 1998	3
Prince Edward Island Wage and Salary Survey — Supplement, 1998	3

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED	4
------------------------------	----------

OTHER RELEASES

Department store sales and stocks

July 1998

Department store sales advanced 5.1% (seasonally adjusted) to \$1,421.8 million in July, following a 4.8% (revised) decline in June. July's increase was the first monthly advance after three months of declining sales, and it was the largest month-over-month increase since February 1994. Despite the advance in July, sales remained below the peak reached in March 1998. July sales were 5.9% higher than in July 1997.

Department stores put in strong advances throughout the last half of 1996 into the first quarter of 1998. This followed a period of more gradual gains from mid-1993. Restructuring in the industry and the early arrival of summer in most parts of the country may have contributed to the recent volatility in department store sales.

Unadjusted for seasonality, department store sales were 7.6% higher in July 1998 than in July 1997. All provinces posted year-over-year sales increases, led by Alberta (+11.1%) and Saskatchewan (+10.1%). Both Alberta and Saskatchewan posted strong year-over-year advances for most of 1997 and the first quarter of 1998.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 111-113.

For further information on this release, contact Jeff Fritzsche (613-951-2812; fritjef@statcan.ca), Retail Trade Section, Distributive Trades Division.

Department store sales including concessions

	July 1997	July 1998	July 1997 to July 1998	Jan.-July 1998	Jan.-July 1997 to Jan.-July 1998
	unadjusted				
	\$ millions		% change	\$ millions	% change
Canada	1,146.3	1,233.6	7.6	8,243.7	8.8
Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island ¹	22.8	23.0	1.1	146.2	9.0
Nova Scotia	36.0	37.9	5.0	246.1	8.8
New Brunswick	27.1	27.8	2.5	182.3	8.8
Quebec	214.3	229.7	7.2	1,543.6	8.4
Ontario	468.3	511.3	9.2	3,469.6	9.7
Manitoba	47.9	52.6	9.8	346.8	8.8
Saskatchewan	38.9	42.9	10.1	274.8	10.5
Alberta	131.5	146.2	11.1	963.7	13.5
British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories ¹	159.4	162.2	1.8	1,070.5	2.1

¹ For reasons of confidentiality, the data for Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island are combined, as are the data for British Columbia, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

Civil aviation operating statistics

June 1998

Air Canada and Canadian Airlines International Ltd. reported near record high passenger-kilometres between April and June 1998. Air Canada reported 2.132 billion passenger-kilometres for June, second only to the record 2.149 billion in August 1997. Canadian Airlines International Ltd. reported 1.5 billion passenger-kilometres in June.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 385.

The June 1998 data on civil aviation data (operational data) for Air Canada and Canadian Airlines International Ltd. will be published in the September issue of *Aviation service bulletin* (51-004-XIB, \$8/\$82), which appears monthly on the Internet at www.statcan.ca. A print-on-demand service is also available and can be ordered directly from the Internet or by calling 1 800 267-6677.

For further information on this release, contact Robert Lund (613-951-0125), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division. ■

Asphalt roofing

July 1998

Production of asphalt shingles totalled 3 361 682 metric bundles in July, a 0.3% increase from 3 352 223 (revised) metric bundles produced in July 1997.

Year-to-date production at the end of July 1998 amounted to 24 843 306 metric bundles, an 8.4% decrease from 27 118 464 (revised) metric bundles produced during the same period in 1997.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 32 and 122 (series 27).

The July 1998 issue of *Asphalt roofing* (45-001-XPB, \$7/\$62) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Liisa Pent (613-951-3531; pentlii@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Prince Edward Island Wage and Salary Survey — Supplement

1998

Data are now available from the Prince Edward Island Wage and Salary Survey — Supplement.

For further information on this release, contact Tony Labillois (613-951-1478), Small Business and Special Surveys Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Crude petroleum and natural gas production,
 May 1998
Catalogue Number 26-006-XPB
 (Canada: \$19/\$186; other countries: US\$19/US\$186).

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.

Electric power statistics,
 June 1998
Catalogue Number 57-001-XPB
 (Canada: \$12/\$114; other countries: US\$12/US\$114).

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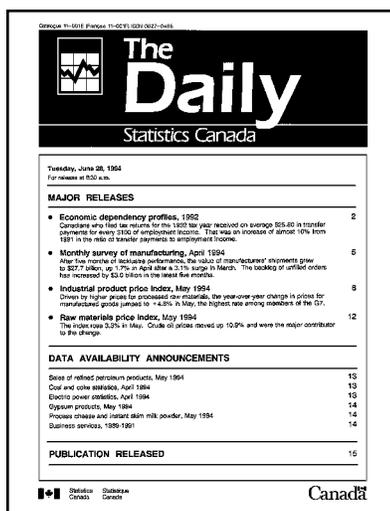
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