



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Friday, September 25, 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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### Employment, earnings and hours July 1998 (preliminary)

Average weekly earnings increased by \$3.25 in July to \$609.14. Earnings increased in most industries. Average weekly earnings have increased 1.6% in the last 12 months. Year-over-year gains in average weekly earnings have been between 1.0% and 2.0% since mid-1997.

Average weekly earnings advanced for both hourly paid workers (+1.5) and salaried employees (+2.4%) on a year-over-year basis. For hourly paid employees, the growth in weekly earnings has been in a downward trend since mid-1997 due to declines in average hours paid. The trend in average weekly earnings for salaried employees has been steady over the same time period. Average earnings for commission pay employees was down 1.1% in the last 12 months as commissions and bonuses in retail and finance, insurance and real estate declined.

Following five months of little change, paid employment increased sharply in July — rising by an estimated 47,000. Employment gains were recorded in most industries. Employers in Quebec added 37,000 employees to payrolls. Ontario paid employment was flat, as layoffs in the auto industry offset gains in other industries.

Beginning with the May 1998 release, the Labour Division has completed the third phase of its redesign in the use of administrative records for the production of employment, earnings and hours estimates. In addition,

a new sample for the Business Payrolls Survey has been drawn to produce estimates of paid hours, and average weekly and hourly earnings.

With the change in methodology, employment estimates derived from administrative records may show a different seasonal pattern than the previous data, which was derived from survey questionnaires. This can only be assessed within the context of a longer time period. Statistics Canada will continue to monitor these impacts and will help users interpret its data. To minimise impacts, it is recommended that SEPH data, particularly employment data, be used in the context of longer time periods for detailed industry distributions.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 4285-4466, 9438-9452, 9639-9664 and 9899-9911.**

Detailed industry data and other labour market indicators will be available in October through standard tables in the monthly publication *Employment, earnings and hours* (72-002-XPB, \$32/\$320), the historical publication *Annual estimates of employment, earnings and hours 1985-1997* (diskette: 72F0002XDB, \$120) and by custom tabulations. See *How to order publications*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Jean Leduc (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; [labour@statcan.ca](mailto:labour@statcan.ca)), Labour Division. □

**Average weekly earnings for all employees**

Industry group (1980 Standard Industrial Classification)	July 1997	June 1998 <sup>r</sup>	July 1998 <sup>p</sup>	June to July 1998	July 1997 to July 1998
	seasonally adjusted				
	\$			% change	
<b>Industrial aggregate</b>	<b>599.64</b>	<b>605.89</b>	<b>609.14</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Logging and forestry	819.85	760.92	780.77	2.6	-4.8
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	1,050.01	1,098.40	1,115.22	1.5	6.2
Manufacturing	741.41	763.04	765.82	0.4	3.3
Construction	722.03	684.79	689.24	0.6	-4.5
Transportation and storage	726.58	737.41	737.60	0.0	1.5
Communication and other utilities	785.30	810.07	809.52	-0.1	3.1
Wholesale trade	651.29	660.63	671.13	1.6	3.0
Retail trade	351.78	361.56	368.48	1.9	4.7
Finance and insurance	783.12	808.13	807.00	-0.1	3.0
Real estate operators and insurance agencies	634.13	617.23	623.82	1.1	-1.6
Business services	681.25	689.96	693.47	0.5	1.8
Education-related services	670.77	662.36	657.84	-0.7	-1.9
Health and social services	518.64	519.11	524.83	1.1	1.2
Accommodation, food and beverage services	233.34	228.15	228.03	-0.1	-2.3
Public administration	739.04	744.55	745.32	0.1	0.8
Miscellaneous services	404.58	405.09	402.05	-0.8	-0.6
<b>Provinces and territories</b>					
Newfoundland	538.11	528.78	528.94	0.0	-1.7
Prince Edward Island	471.91	470.04	478.52	1.8	1.4
Nova Scotia	509.32	514.90	522.96	1.6	2.7
New Brunswick	535.83	526.54	536.90	2.0	0.2
Quebec	565.30	570.59	574.00	0.6	1.5
Ontario	638.15	645.70	647.26	0.2	1.4
Manitoba	528.43	537.78	543.09	1.0	2.8
Saskatchewan	527.77	538.37	538.88	0.1	2.1
Alberta	601.31	614.64	619.12	0.7	3.0
British Columbia	614.00	618.04	618.53	0.1	0.7
Yukon	687.31	667.60	684.43	2.5	-0.4
Northwest Territories	726.35	729.80	730.65	0.1	0.6

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary estimates.

<sup>r</sup> Revised estimates.

## Number of employees

Industry group (1980 Standard Industrial Classification)	May 1998	June 1998 <sup>r</sup>	July 1998 <sup>p</sup>	May to June 1998	June to July 1998
seasonally adjusted					
	thousands			% change	
<b>Industrial aggregate</b>	<b>11,585</b>	<b>11,568</b>	<b>11,615</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Logging and forestry	71	68	67	-4.2	-1.5
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	145	145	142	0.0	-2.1
Manufacturing	1,867	1,875	1,879	0.4	0.2
Construction	501	497	499	-0.8	0.4
Transportation and storage	491	486	491	-1.0	1.0
Communication and other utilities	383	383	381	0.0	-0.5
Wholesale trade	727	723	728	-0.6	0.7
Retail trade	1,417	1,423	1,434	0.4	0.8
Finance and insurance	517	513	517	-0.8	0.8
Real estate operators and insurances agencies	203	201	201	-1.0	0.0
Business services	789	792	797	0.4	0.6
Education-related services	939	935	934	-0.4	-0.1
Health and social services	1,212	1,208	1,215	-0.3	0.6
Accommodation, food and beverage services	844	842	848	-0.2	0.7
Public administration	668	667	668	-0.1	0.1
Miscellaneous services	686	685	687	-0.1	0.3
<b>Provinces and territories</b>					
Newfoundland	151	149	150	-1.3	0.7
Prince Edward Island	46	47	47	2.2	0.0
Nova Scotia	320	320	321	0.0	0.3
New Brunswick	261	259	261	-0.8	0.8
Quebec	2,754	2,731	2,768	-0.8	1.4
Ontario	4,560	4,547	4,546	-0.3	0.0
Manitoba	433	435	437	0.5	0.5
Saskatchewan	343	346	348	0.9	0.6
Alberta	1,210	1,207	1,211	-0.2	0.3
British Columbia	1,477	1,480	1,481	0.2	0.1
Yukon	15	15	15	0.0	0.0
Northwest Territories	25	25	26	0.0	4.0

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary estimates.

<sup>r</sup> Revised estimates.

## Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard

July 1998

Oriented strandboard production in July totalled 513 781 cubic metres, an increase of 4.8% from 490 116 (revised) cubic metres in July 1997. Particleboard production reached 187 162 cubic metres, an increase of 0.3% from 186 587 cubic metres in July 1997. Fibreboard production in July was 71 097 cubic metres, up 40.9% from 49 824 cubic metres, in July 1997.

Year-to-date oriented strandboard production totalled 3 543 670 cubic metres, a 9.8% increase from 3 227 638 (revised) cubic metres for the same period

last year. Particleboard production reached 1 336 316 cubic metres, up 2.7% from 1 301 216 (revised) cubic metres in 1997. Year-to-date fibreboard production reached 474 320 cubic metres, up 32.2% from 358 799 (revised) cubic metres during the same period in 1997.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 31 (series 2, 3, 5) and 122 (series 8).**

The July 1998 issue of *Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard* (36-003-XPB, \$7/\$62) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Gilles Simard (613-951-3516; [simales@statcan.ca](mailto:simales@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

### Cereals and oilseeds review

July 1998

Data from the July issue of *Cereals and oilseeds review* are now available. The information includes data on production, stocks, cash and futures prices, crop quality, domestic processing, exports, farmers' deliveries and supply-disposition analyses.

The August situation report, an overview of current market conditions, both domestic and international, is also included in the July issue of *Cereals and oilseeds review* (22-007-XPB, \$15/\$149), which will be available in early October. See *How to order publications*.

For further information on this release, contact Rick Burroughs (613-951-2890; [burric@statcan.ca](mailto:burric@statcan.ca)) or Les Macartney (613-951-8714; [macales@statcan.ca](mailto:macales@statcan.ca)), Grain Marketing Unit, Agriculture Division. ■

### Road motor vehicles: Registrations

1997 (preliminary)

Total road motor vehicle registrations increased 1.7% to 17.5 million in 1997, up from 17.2 million (revised) in 1996. Of the total, 59.4% were registered in the two most populous provinces — Ontario and Quebec.

Passenger automobiles, the largest component of the total (77.2%), increased 1.8% during the same period.

The number of driver licences issued remained at about 20 million in 1997.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 356, 359, 360, 363, 364, 367, 368, 371, 372, 375, 376, 379 and 380.**

The 1997 issue of *Road motor vehicles: Registrations* (53-219-XIB, \$21) 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 Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0009; [laroque@statcan.ca](mailto:laroque@statcan.ca)), Transportation Division. ■

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**Infomat - A weekly review**, September 25, 1998  
**Catalogue number 11-002-XIE**  
 (Canada: \$3/\$109; outside Canada: US\$3/US\$109).

**Infomat - A weekly review**, September 25, 1998  
**Catalogue number 11-002-XPE**  
 (Canada: \$4/\$145; outside Canada: US\$4/US\$145).

**New motor vehicle sales**, July 1998  
**Catalogue number 63-007-XIB**  
 (Canada: \$13/\$124; outside Canada: US\$13/US\$124).

**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.

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**MAJOR RELEASES**

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2  
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 211 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995** 4  
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was modest weak again in 1998, 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** 9
- **Steel primary forms, season ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **Egg production**, April 1997 13

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### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001E.

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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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## RELEASE DATES

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**September 28 to October 2, 1998**  
(Release dates are subject to change.)

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Release date	Title	Reference period
28	<b>National tourism indicators</b>	Q2 1998
29	<b>Industrial Product Price Index</b>	August 1998
29	<b>Raw Materials Price Index</b>	August 1998
30	<b>Real gross domestic product at factor cost by industry</b>	July 1998

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