



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, January 29, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Gross domestic product by industry at factor cost, November 1998**
 Shored up by continued strength in the United States economy, Canada's GDP advanced 0.4% in November. It was the fourth consecutive monthly increase, following a mid-year period of weakness that was largely induced by strikes.

2
- **Television viewing, fall 1997**
 Canadians watched television for an average of 22.7 hours per week in the fall of 1997, including 1.3 hours watching videotapes on their VCRs. Between 1988 and 1997, there was a small but steady decline in the number of hours of television viewing per week, except in 1995, when new specialty cable services were introduced.

6

OTHER RELEASES

Crude oil and natural gas, November 1998	9
Electric power statistics, November 1998	10
Coal and coke statistics, November 1998	10
Pulpwood and wood residue statistics, November 1998	10
Cereals and oilseeds review, November 1998	11
Registered Education Saving Plan Survey, 1998	11

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MAJOR RELEASES

Gross domestic product by industry at factor cost

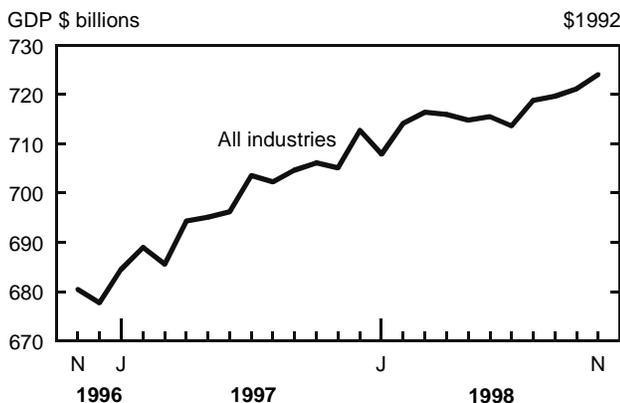
November 1998

Shored up by continued strength in the United States economy, Canada's GDP advanced 0.4% in November. It was the fourth consecutive monthly increase, following a mid-year period of weakness that was largely induced by strikes.

Despite a resurgence in the closing months of 1998, economic growth in the year will fall short of the strong performance in 1997. GDP in the January-to-November period grew 2.8% in 1998, considerably less than the 4.0% growth rate achieved for the same period a year earlier.

During November, higher manufacturing output accounted for about one-half of the overall increase, while a partial recovery in retail sales and stronger business services activity also contributed significantly to the advance. The mining and construction industries experienced modest increases. Lower stock market activity hurt the finance industries, while a return to more settled air traffic, after an October surge following the Air Canada pilots' strike, reduced activity in the transportation services industry.

Economy advanced again in November



Manufacturers spurred by robust U.S. auto demand

Continued strong demand from the United States economy led manufacturers to boost factory output 1.1% in November, the fourth consecutive monthly

Note to readers

The gross domestic product (GDP) of an industry is the value added by labour and capital in transforming inputs purchased from other producers into outputs. The estimates presented here are seasonally adjusted and are valued at 1992 prices.

increase. This growth extended the recovery from a strike-induced summer low and continued to lift production above pre-strike levels. Output of automotive products, machinery, electronic equipment, chemicals and food increased; the most significant decline occurred in the beverage products industry.

November's overall rise in production was broadly based with increases in 17 of 22 major industry groups - accounting for over 90% of factory output.

In November, the automotive industry bettered its lofty October performance by 0.3%, spurred by strong demand in the United States for Canadian-built models. The August recovery from this summer's General Motors strike in the United States stretched into November as the company and many of its suppliers maintained high production levels in a bid to replenish depleted inventories south of the border. Extra shifts and new model launches by other companies also continued to buoy production in November.

The machinery industry rebounded in November after shutdowns and erratic production patterns led to a curtailing of output in October. Makers of agricultural machinery, compressors, turbines and construction machinery reported higher production levels in November. However, the machinery industry's latest gain was not enough to reverse a marked downtrend that began in the latter half of 1997. Production of machinery in the first 11 months of 1998 was 4.4% below the level for the same period in 1997.

Output of telecommunications equipment increased in November for the third month in a row. The latest string of gains partly made up for a sharp cutback in production in August, and left November output levels roughly where they were at the beginning of 1998. Production of other electronic equipment and electrical goods was also higher in November. However, makers of business and office computers curtailed output for a third consecutive month. The decline was mostly due to the ongoing effects of an industry restructuring.

The continued expansion of several pharmaceutical product lines provided the push for a 1.2% increase in the output of chemical products in November, the fourth in a row. Makers of soaps and industrial chemicals were also busier in November.

Construction activity advanced

Construction activity increased 0.4% in November. Higher activity on residential building sites, and on repair and engineering projects was partly offset by a decline in non-residential building construction. Work on non-residential sites has generally shown strong growth over the past two years, despite the November decline. This contrasted sharply with residential building activity. New housing construction only partly recovered from the effects of summer strikes and, partly as a result, housing starts in 1998 were 6.6% below the previous year's level.

Other industries

A volatile stock market led to a 0.5% decline in the finance industries. A return to more settled activity in the aftermath of the Air Canada pilots' strike held down the

transportation services industry. Air travel had soared following the strike, as seat sales and other discounts boosted air travel to unsustainable levels in October. Output of electricity fell for a third consecutive month in November, as unseasonably warm weather cut into power demand.

Available on CANSIM: 4677-4681.

The November 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 concepts, methods, 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. □

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

	June 1998 ^r	July 1998 ^r	Aug. 1998 ^r	Sept.1998 ^r	Oct. 1998 ^r	Nov. 1998 ^p	Oct. to Nov. 1998	Nov. 1998	Nov. 1997 to Nov. 1998
seasonally adjusted									
	month-to-month % change						\$ change ¹	\$ level ¹	% change
All Industries	0.1	-0.3	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.4	2,883	724,193	2.7
Goods-producing industries	-0.2	-1.3	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.7	1,597	238,192	1.6
Agriculture	-0.3	0.4	0.4	-0.2	0.5	0.0	3.0	11,838	-0.8
Fishing and trapping	-3.5	-2.4	-7.9	0.1	-3.7	0.0	0.0	643	-9.9
Logging and forestry	0.7	2.7	3.2	-2.6	2.8	-0.2	-9.0	4,701	-4.0
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	-0.3	-1.0	-0.9	-1.1	-2.5	0.4	98	26,514	-7.3
Manufacturing	-0.6	-2.0	3.1	0.5	0.8	1.1	1,393	130,922	4.6
Construction	-0.5	-1.1	1.0	0.9	0.2	0.4	158	39,837	2.5
Other utilities	2.7	-0.2	1.2	-2.4	-2.5	-0.2	-46	23,737	-2.4
Services-producing industries	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.3	1,286	486,001	3.3
Transportation and storage	0.2	-0.7	0.7	-0.8	2.6	-0.2	-60	32,668	1.7
Communications	1.2	0.6	1.7	1.5	0.7	1.0	243	24,970	12.5
Wholesale trade	0.7	1.3	0.1	0.7	1.1	0.4	158	43,432	7.1
Retail trade	-1.6	1.7	-0.3	0.7	-1.4	1.0	451	44,952	4.2
Finance and insurance	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.2	-0.2	-0.1	-191	39,624	0.6
Real estate and insurance agent	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2	127	79,473	2.2
Business services	0.7	0.0	0.7	0.7	0.2	1.0	423	41,844	6.7
Government services	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.4	161	42,914	0.5
Education	0.1	-0.2	-0.9	-0.6	1.6	-0.1	-39	40,109	3.4
Health and social services	-0.1	0.0	0.4	0.2	0.0	-0.1	-29	48,471	0.6
Accommodation and food	0.5	0.4	-0.4	-0.5	1.5	0.4	74	18,810	2.0
Other services	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	-0.2	-0.1	-32	28,734	1.8
Other aggregations									
Industrial production	-0.1	-1.6	2.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.8	1,445	181,173	1.7
Non-durable manufacturing	-0.3	-1.0	1.4	0.1	0.0	0.8	461	57,185	2.9
Durable manufacturing	-0.9	-2.8	4.6	0.8	1.4	1.3	932	73,737	6.0
Business sector	0.1	-0.3	0.9	0.2	0.2	0.5	2,723	598,115	3.0
Non-business sector	-0.1	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.5	0.1	160	126,078	1.4

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

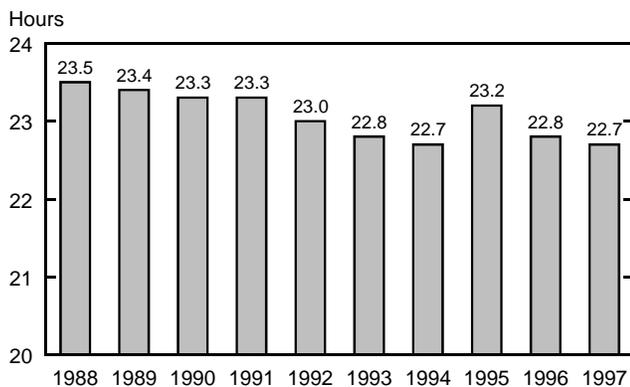
¹ Millions of dollars at annual rate.

Television viewing

Fall 1997

Canadians watched television for an average of 22.7 hours per week in the fall of 1997, including 1.3 hours spent viewing videotapes on their VCRs. Between 1988 and 1997, there was a small but steady decline in the number of hours of television viewing per week, except in 1995, when new specialty cable services were introduced.

Average hours per week of television viewing



Television more popular in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces

Residents of Quebec, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia watched more television than other Canadians in the fall of 1997. The average weekly viewing time was more than 25 hours for Quebec and about 24 hours for the other three provinces. In contrast, the average weekly viewing time in Ontario, Prince Edward Island and the Western provinces was below the national average. In those provinces, viewers watched between 19.8 and 22.2 hours per week of television.

French-speaking Quebecers watched more television than English-speaking Quebecers or other Canadians. Their viewing time exceeded the national average by nearly four hours.

Television more popular among women and older persons

For all age groups and in all Canadian provinces, women watched more television than men, averaging almost five hours more per week.

Note to readers

The Culture Statistics Program's Television Project is a joint undertaking of the Market Analysis Division at the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC), the Broadcasting Services Policy Branch at Canadian Heritage, and the Culture Sub-division at Statistics Canada.

Statistics Canada's databank on television viewing consists of files from a number of sources. Basic viewing data are acquired from the BBM Bureau of Measurement. They include the demographics of survey respondents and the schedules of most television stations whose signal is picked up in Canada.

CRTC staff prepare a file which codes the characteristics of each program broadcast during the survey period. The major characteristics include: content (news, public affairs, drama, religious programming, etc.); language; country of origin; and percentage of Canadian content. The final databank, which is retained by Statistics Canada, also indicates the network affiliation and geographic location of each television station.

Basic survey data have been collected by BBM from a sample of Canadians aged two and over. Viewing data for each viewer cover seven consecutive days and were collected using a diary-type questionnaire over a period of four weeks (October 29 to November 25, 1997).

Another organization, Nielsen Media Research, also produces data on television viewing. This firm uses electronic meters to collect data on a year-round basis and the results of this alternate methodology may produce averages that vary from the basic results produced by BBM.

Older persons also spent much more time in front of the television, especially men and women over the age of 50. This trend was even more pronounced among men and women over 60, who spent nearly 10 more hours per week watching television than the average for men or women as a whole.

Of all age groups, men aged 18 to 24 spent the least time watching television, followed by teenagers and children.

Canadian and foreign programs attracted different viewers

In general, francophone viewers spent more than 66% of their viewing time watching Canadian programs, while anglophone viewers spent 70% of their viewing time watching foreign programs. Consequently, Canadian programs were more popular with francophones, whereas anglophones tended to favour foreign programs.

This gap in the viewing of foreign programs may be due in part to the fact that francophones did not have access in their language to the range of foreign programs available to anglophones on American channels.

For Canadian programming, news and public affairs programs attracted the largest audience among

both anglophones and francophones. Canadian programs in this category, however, were much more popular with francophone viewers, who devoted nearly 12% more of their viewing time to them. Francophone viewers also showed much more interest in variety shows, game shows and dramas than anglophone viewers, while the latter were more interested in sports programs than francophones.

In foreign programming, dramas and comedies were the most popular with anglophone viewers. Francophones enjoyed dramas too, but in a much lower proportion than anglophones, who spent nearly 10% more of their viewing time watching them.

For Canadian and foreign programming combined, the most popular programs among francophone viewers continued to be news and public affairs programs, followed by dramas, variety shows and game shows. Among anglophone viewers, dramas were the biggest draw, followed by news and public affairs programs and comedies.

Distribution of television viewing time, francophones 2 years and older
Fall 1997

Type of program	All television stations		
	Canadian programs	Foreign programs	Total
	%		
News and public affairs	27.4	1.3	28.7
Documentary	1.3	0.9	2.2
Instruction:			
Academic	1.5	0.2	1.7
Social/recreational	0.3	0.2	0.5
Religion	0.3	0.1	0.4
Sports	4.6	0.9	5.5
Variety and games	13.3	1.6	14.9
Music and dance	1.2	0.3	1.5
Comedy	1.5	7.4	8.9
Drama	15.0	14.9	30.0
Other/Unknown			
VCR	-	4.2	4.2
Other	-	1.8	1.8
Total	66.5	33.5	100.0

- Nil or zero.

Note: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

Distribution of television viewing time, anglophones 2 years and older
Fall 1997

Type of program	All television stations		
	Canadian programs	Foreign programs	Total
	%		
News and public affairs	15.5	6.1	21.6
Documentary	0.8	2.4	3.2
Instruction:			
Academic	0.7	1.0	1.7
Social/recreational	0.3	0.9	1.3
Religion	0.2	0.1	0.3
Sports	6.5	2.9	9.4
Variety and games	1.4	7.1	8.5
Music and dance	0.8	0.6	1.4
Comedy	0.2	14.2	14.4
Drama	3.5	25.0	28.5
Other/Unknown			
VCR	-	5.9	5.9
Other	-	3.9	3.9
Total	30.0	70.0	100.0

- Nil or zero.

Note: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

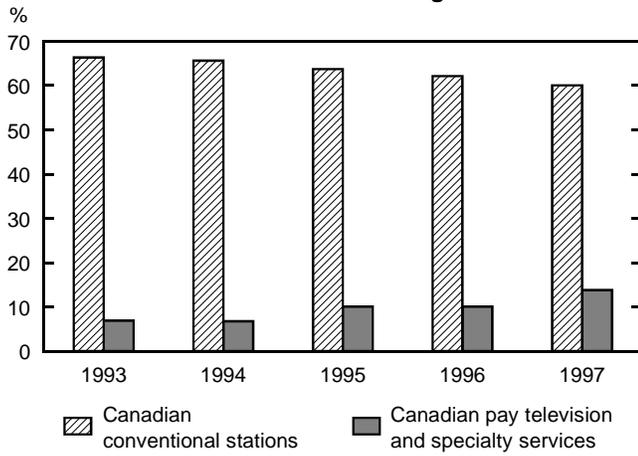
From 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., francophones spent almost the same proportion of their viewing time watching Canadian programs as foreign programs. However, they preferred Canadian dramas (27%), followed by foreign dramas (18%) and Canadian news and public affairs programs (14%).

During the same time slot (7 p.m. to 11 p.m.), anglophones increased their viewing of foreign programs to nearly 80% of their total viewing time. This high proportion was largely due to anglophones' attraction to foreign dramas and comedies, which accounted for 87% and almost 99%, respectively, of their total viewing time for these types of programs.

Audience growing for pay-TV and Canadian specialty services

With the introduction of 15 new Canadian specialty stations in 1997, the audience of pay television and Canadian specialty services has grown remarkably. In the fall of 1997, these services accounted for 14% of Canadians' total viewing, twice the level in fall 1993. This sizable audience share may be due in part to the free trial offer of these new specialty stations during the survey period. Data obtained in fall 1998 will show whether the audience rating for Canadian specialty services has remained high even though these new stations are no longer free.

Viewing of Canadian pay television and specialty services continues to grow



Nevertheless, Canadian conventional stations continued to have the highest viewership among both anglophones and francophones, even though their audience share steadily declined from 66% in 1993 to 60% in 1997. These stations still accounted for more than half of the viewing time among anglophones and

more than three-quarters among francophones. In addition, anglophone viewers spent more than 18% of their viewing time watching foreign conventional stations.

Distribution of television viewing time in Canada by signal source and language
Fall 1997

	Anglophones	Francophones
	%	
Canadian conventional stations	53.4	77.8
Canadian pay television and specialty services	13.8	12.5
VCR	5.9	4.2
Foreign conventional stations	18.3	3.5
Foreign pay television and specialty services	5.9	0.7
Unknown source	2.7	1.3

Note: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Lotfi Chahdi at (613-951-3136; fax: 613-951-9040; chahlot@statcan.ca), Culture Statistics Program, Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

Average hours per week of television viewing, by province and age/sex groups
Fall 1997

	Canada	Nfld.	P.E.I.	N.S.	N.B.	Quebec			Ont.	Man.	Sask.	Alta.	B.C.
						English	French	Total					
Total population	22.7	24.3	21.8	24.1	24.5	22.3	26.5	25.8	22.2	21.0	21.7	19.8	20.4
Men													
18 +	21.7	23.6	22.2	23.3	23.0	21.1	25.2	24.4	21.1	20.4	20.6	18.8	20.5
18 - 24	14.3	14.1	15.2	16.0	15.6	15.2	16.0	15.9	13.7	12.9	14.7	13.0	13.5
25 - 34	18.3	23.5	20.8	20.5	20.8	16.1	20.4	19.9	18.1	17.5	17.4	16.4	16.2
35 - 49	19.8	22.4	19.9	20.5	21.7	22.1	23.1	22.7	18.9	17.7	17.8	17.1	18.8
50 - 59	23.3	27.9	23.1	26.8	25.5	17.3	27.5	26.0	21.7	26.2	21.3	19.6	22.3
60 +	32.2	30.3	30.9	32.5	29.5	30.1	39.2	36.6	31.7	28.8	29.8	28.5	30.4
Women													
18 +	26.5	27.2	23.8	28.1	28.8	26.2	31.7	30.7	25.4	25.0	26.0	23.4	23.1
18 - 24	18.0	21.0	11.8	19.9	19.7	15.1	19.5	19.2	18.9	16.5	19.1	15.0	14.4
25 - 34	23.0	26.9	23.5	27.6	29.5	21.2	26.7	25.9	21.6	22.3	23.4	22.1	19.9
35 - 49	23.5	25.4	21.2	25.0	25.8	22.8	28.7	27.4	22.5	22.5	22.1	20.9	20.5
50 - 59	28.5	27.6	25.3	30.0	31.2	32.9	35.9	35.4	25.7	26.6	24.2	24.7	24.4
60 +	36.1	33.6	31.7	35.0	35.2	34.1	43.7	41.5	35.3	32.8	35.4	32.8	32.7
Teens													
12 - 17	16.9	16.2	16.9	16.1	18.3	15.7	18.1	18.0	17.9	14.2	15.9	15.1	14.3
Children													
2 - 11	17.9	22.7	18.0	18.3	19.2	16.9	18.9	19.0	18.6	15.9	17.2	16.3	15.3

Note: For Quebec, the language classification is based on the language spoken at home. The total column includes those respondents who did not reply to this question or who indicated a language other than English or French.

OTHER RELEASES

Crude oil and natural gas

November 1998 (preliminary)

In November, crude oil production was 3.3% lower than November 1997, the first year-over-year decrease since August 1998. The drop is attributable to decreases in production of crude oil in Alberta and Saskatchewan. Exports, which accounted for 61.0% of total production, continued their upward trend, increasing 1.6% from the year-earlier level. Exports, still driven by strong demand in the United States, have been rising steadily for 30 consecutive months.

For the first 11 months of 1998, exports of crude oil were up 11.9% over the same period in 1997, while production was 4.1% higher.

Natural gas production increased 1.9% from November 1997. Canadian domestic sales fell 6.6% from the year-earlier level, the thirteenth consecutive monthly year-over-year decrease. The decline is mainly due to a drop in sales to the residential and commercial sectors. In contrast, exports continued to increase, posting a 0.4% gain from November 1997.

Year-to-date exports of natural gas were up 7.0% over the same period in 1997. Year-to-date Canadian sales were down 7.0% from the year-earlier level, as a result of unseasonably mild temperatures during the first 11 months of 1998.

Crude oil and natural gas

	Nov. 1997	Nov. 1998	Nov. 1997 to Nov. 1998 % change
thousands of cubic metres			
Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons¹			
Production	10,641.8	10,288.8	-3.3
Exports	6,184.3	6,280.8	1.6
Imports ²	3,362.8	3,532.8	5.1
Refinery receipts	7,898.6	7,897.5	0.0
millions of cubic metres			
Natural gas³			
Marketable production	13,272.1	13,529.3	1.9
Exports	7,127.3	7,158.0	0.4
Canadian domestic sales ⁴	6,255.4	5,840.4	-6.6
thousands of cubic metres			
Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons¹			
Production	112,534.3	117,198.5	4.1
Exports	63,633.5	71,174.6	11.9
Imports ²	39,778.9	40,743.4	2.4
Refinery receipts	87,611.5	87,686.6	0.1
millions of cubic metres			
Natural gas³			
Marketable production	142,063.9	146,103.2	2.8
Exports	74,299.6	79,513.5	7.0
Canadian domestic sales ⁴	60,377.5	56,143.4	-7.0

¹ Disposition may differ from production due to inventory change, industry own-use, etc.

² Crude oil received by Canadian refineries from foreign countries for processing. Data may differ from International Trade Division (ITD) estimates due to timing differences and the inclusion in the ITD data of crude oil landed in Canada for future re-export.

³ Disposition may differ from production due to inventory change, usage as pipeline fuel, pipeline losses, line-pack fluctuations, etc.

⁴ Includes direct sales.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 530 and 539.

The November 1998 issue of *Crude petroleum and natural gas production* (26-006-XPB, \$19/\$186)

will be available in February 1999. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Eleonore Harding (613-951-5708; hardele@statcan.ca) or Michel Palardy (613-951-7174; palamic@statcan.ca), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Electric power statistics

November 1998

Warmer temperatures and low reservoir levels led to a decline in electricity generation in November. Net generation of electricity decreased to 45 146 gigawatt hours (GWh), down 4.7% from November 1997. Exports decreased 40.9% to 2 259 GWh, and imports increased from 1 233 GWh in November 1997 to 1 356 GWh.

Generation of hydro-electricity decreased 11.3% to 26 743 GWh due to low reservoir levels across Canada. This loss of generating capacity was partially compensated by a 12.8% increase in thermal conventional generation to 12 610 GWh. Generation from nuclear sources was down 4.6% from November 1997 to 5 793 GWh hours. Higher imports and lower exports also helped to compensate for the loss of generating capacity in order to meet domestic demand.

Year-to-date net generation at the end of November totalled 492 196 GWh, down 1.8% from the previous year. Year-to-date exports (39 936 GWh) were down 3.4%, whereas year-to-date imports (14 378 GWh) rose 69.7% from the previous year.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3987-3999.

The November 1998 issue of *Electric power statistics* (57-001-XPB, \$12/\$114) will be available in early February. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact André Lefebvre (613-951-3560; alefeba@statcan.ca), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Coal and coke statistics

November 1998

Production problems in Nova Scotia and reduced demand from both domestic and foreign markets led to a decline in coal production in November. Coal

production totalled 6 190 kilotonnes, down 12.4% from November 1997. The year-to-date production figure stood at 69 397 kilotonnes, down 4.1% from the same period in 1997.

Exports in November decreased 18.6% from November 1997 to 2 761 kilotonnes. Exports to Japan (the largest consumer of Canadian coal) decreased 20.1% to 1 347 kilotonnes during the same period. Exports to Europe and the rest of Asia also declined. Year-to-date figures show total exports of 31 763 kilotonnes, 5.6% below last year's level.

Coke production in November 1998 decreased to 249 kilotonnes, down 7.2% from November 1997.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 9.

The November 1998 issue of *Coal and coke statistics* (45-002-XPB, \$12/\$114) will be available in early February. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact André Lefebvre (613-951-3560; alefeba@statcan.ca), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Pulpwood and wood residue statistics

November 1998

Pulpwood receipts in November totalled 2 751 114 cubic metres, down 25.4% from 3 688 004 cubic metres (revised) in November 1997. Wood residue receipts totalled 6 087 692 cubic metres, an 8.1% increase from 5 628 697 cubic metres (revised) in November 1997. Consumption of pulpwood and wood residue totalled 8 249 717 cubic metres, a 6.5% drop from 8 826 265 cubic metres (revised) in November 1997.

The closing inventory of pulpwood and wood residue increased 10.0% to 13 690 847 cubic metres, up from 12 445 699 cubic metres in November 1997. Year-to-date consumption of pulpwood and wood residue (94 101 743 cubic metres) decreased 5.7% from 99 834 595 cubic metres a year earlier. Figures for 1997 have been revised.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 54.

The November 1998 issue of *Pulpwood and wood residue statistics* (25-001-XIB, \$6/\$55) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Gilles Simard (613-951-3516;

simaless@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Cereals and oilseeds review

November 1998

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

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this

release, contact Rick Burroughs (613-951-2890; *burriric@statcan.ca*) or Les Macartney (613-951-8714; *macales@statcan.ca*), Grain Marketing Unit, Agriculture Division ■

Registered Education Saving Plan Survey 1998

Data from the Registered Education Saving Plan Survey 1998 are now available. The data consist only of numbers of Canadian financial institutions (banks and life insurance companies) who offer or who plan to offer these educational savings plans.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Penny Basset, (613-951-3217; *basspen@statcan.ca*), Small Business and Special Surveys 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).

Sawmills and planing mills, November 1998

Catalogue number 35-003-XPB

(Canada: \$12/\$114; outside Canada: US\$12/US\$114).

Surface and marine transport, vol. 15 no. 1

Catalogue number 50-002-XIB

(Canada: \$10/\$62; outside Canada: US\$10/US\$62).

Energy statistics handbook, January 1999

Catalogue number 57-601-XDE

(Canada: \$284/\$; outside Canada: US\$284/US\$).

Energy statistics handbook, January 1999

Catalogue number 57-601-UPB

(Canada: \$387/\$; outside Canada: US\$387/US\$).

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For release at 8:30 a.m.

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Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1995, each Canadian took an average of about 65 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 notably weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow nominal growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **Help-wanted index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 2
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 13
- **Egg production, April 1997** 12

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11




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RELEASE DATES: FEBRUARY 1999

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Release date	Title	Reference period
2	Business conditions survey: Canadian manufacturing industries	January 1999
2	Field crop reporting series: grain stocks December 31	1998
3	Survey of Household Spending	1997
3	Help-wanted index	January 1999
4	Building permits	December 1998
5	Labour Force Survey	January 1999
10	New housing price index	December 1998
12	New motor vehicle sales	December 1998
15	Travel between Canada and other countries	December 1998
16	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	December 1998
16	Domestic travel	Third quarter 1998
18	Consumer Price Index	January 1999
19	Canadian international merchandise trade	December 1998
19	Wholesale trade	December 1998
22	Retail trade	December 1998
23	Canada's international transactions in securities	December 1998
23	Private and public investment in Canada (intentions)	1999
23	Employment insurance	December 1998
24	Farm cash receipts	Oct.-Dec. 1998
25	Industrial Product Price Index	January 1999
25	Raw Materials Price Index	January 1999
25	Composite Index	January 1999
25	Employment, earnings and hours	December 1998
26	Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises	Oct.-Dec. 1998
26	International travel account	Oct.-Dec. 1998
26	Characteristics of international travellers	July-Sept. 1998

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