



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, October 6, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

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OTHER RELEASES

Help-wanted Index

September 1999

The Help-wanted Index (1996=100) increased 1.3% in September to 160.

Increases in Alberta (+4.0%), Prince Edward Island (+2.7%), British Columbia (+2.3%) and Ontario (+1.7%) were partially offset by decreases in Manitoba, Newfoundland and Quebec.

The index was 11.1% higher compared with a year earlier.

Help-wanted Index

(1996=100)

	Sept. 1998	Aug. 1999	Sept. 1999	Sept. 1998 to Sept. 1999	Aug. to Sept. 1999
seasonally adjusted and smoothed					
				% change	
Canada	144	158	160	11.1	1.3
Newfoundland	137	165	163	19.0	-1.2
Prince Edward Island	150	183	188	25.3	2.7
Nova Scotia	148	170	172	16.2	1.2
New Brunswick	156	180	180	15.4	0.0
Quebec	143	161	159	11.2	-1.2
Ontario	153	175	178	16.3	1.7
Manitoba	164	180	176	7.3	-2.2
Saskatchewan	133	126	127	-4.5	0.8
Alberta	142	126	131	-7.7	4.0
British Columbia	120	128	131	9.2	2.3

Note: The Help-wanted Index is compiled from the number of help-wanted ads published in 22 newspapers in 20 major metropolitan areas. The index is a measure of companies' intentions to hire new workers. These indexes have been seasonally adjusted and smoothed to ease month-to-month comparisons.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 105 (levels 8 to 10).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gilles Groleau or Robert Keay (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; labour@statcan.ca), Labour Statistics Division. ■

Short-term Expectations Survey

August to November 1999

According to the Short-term Expectations Survey of economic forecasters, the performance of the economy is expected to show little change in the coming months, with only a slight increase in inflation.

The mean forecast of year-over-year inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index is 2.1% for September, 2.0% for October and 2.1% for November. Actual inflation, meanwhile, was slightly higher than previously expected — the average forecast for August was 1.8% compared with the actual rate of 2.1%.

The mean monthly growth forecast for gross domestic product in July was 0.3%, slightly lower than the actual growth of 0.4%. Analysts expect about the same growth in August and September, with a mean monthly growth rate of 0.3%.

Forecasts for international trade show a small change in the trade surplus for August to October, with mean forecasts of \$3.1 billion in August, and \$3.2 billion in both September and October. Average forecasts show a slight increase of exports and imports over these months.

The actual seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in August was 7.8% and the participation rate was 65.4%. Forecasters anticipate an unemployment rate of 7.8% for September with an average of 7.7% in October and November. Very slight increases in the participation rate are expected, with average rates of 65.5% in both September and October and 65.6% in November.

Short-term Expectations Survey

	Average forecasts					Actual figures	
	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	July	Aug.
	% yearly growth						
Consumer Price Index							
Initial forecast	1.5	1.6	1.9	1.9	2.1	1.8	2.1
First revision	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.0	..		
Second revision	1.7	1.8	2.1	..	..
	% monthly growth, seasonally adjusted, constant \$1992						
Gross domestic product							
Initial forecast	0.3	0.2	0.3	..	..	0.4	..
First revision	0.3	0.3	..	..	..
Second revision	0.3	..	..	..	..
	\$ billion						
Exports							
Initial forecast	28.9	29.0	29.6	30.5	..	30.0	..
First revision	29.0	29.4	30.3	..	..
Second revision	29.3	30.1	..	..	..
Imports							
Initial forecast	26.7	26.5	27.1	27.3	..	26.9	..
First revision	26.4	26.7	27.1	..	..
Second revision	26.7	27.0	..	..	..
Balance							
Initial forecast	2.2	2.5	2.5	3.2	..	3.1	..
First revision	2.6	2.7	3.2	..	..
Second revision	2.6	3.1	..	..	..
	seasonally adjusted %						
Unemployment rate							
Initial forecast	8.0	8.1	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.7	7.8
First revision	8.1	7.8	7.7	7.7	..		
Second revision	7.7	7.7	7.8	..	..
Labour force participation rate							
Initial forecast	65.9	66.0	65.6	65.7	65.6	65.4	65.4
First revision	66.0	65.6	65.6	65.5	..		
Second revision	65.5	65.5	65.5	..	..

.. Not available.

The next release of the Short-term Expectations Survey will be on November 3.

For more information, for a set of tables, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jamie Brunet (613-951-6684; fax: 613-951-1572; jamie.brunet@statcan.ca), Small Business and Special Surveys Division. ■

Railway carloadings

Seven-day period ending September 14, 1999

Non-intermodal traffic loaded during the seven-day period ending September 14, 1999 decreased 1.0% to 4.8 million tonnes compared with the same period last year. The number of cars loaded decreased 7.7%.

Intermodal traffic tonnage totalled 394 000 tonnes, a 17.7% increase from the same period of 1998. The year-to-date figures increased 13.4%.

Total traffic increased 0.2% during the reference period. This brought the year-to-date total to 177.5 million tonnes, a decrease of 1.3% from the previous year.

All year-to-date figures have been revised.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0009; laroque@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Asphalt roofing

August 1999

Production of asphalt shingles totalled 4 169 922 metric bundles in August, a 6.2% increase from 3 926 127 metric bundles produced in August 1998.

January-to-August production amounted to 29 542 760 metric bundles, a 2.7% increase from 28 774 704 metric bundles produced during the same period in 1998.

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

The August 1999 issue of *Asphalt roofing* (45-001-XIB, \$5/\$47) will be available shortly. 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; simales@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Vista on the agri-food industry and the farm community, September 1999
Catalogue number 21-004-XIE
(Free).

Vista on the agri-food industry and the farm community, September 1999
Catalogue number 21-004-XPB
(Free).

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, July 1999
Catalogue number 31-001-XPB
(Canada: \$20/\$196; outside Canada: US\$20/US\$196).

Coal and coke statistics, July 1999
Catalogue number 45-002-XPB
(Canada: \$12/\$114; outside Canada: US\$12/US\$114).

Electric power statistics, July 1999
Catalogue number 57-001-XPB
(Canada: \$12/\$114; outside Canada: US\$12/US\$114).

Energy statistics handbook, September 1999
Catalogue number 57-601-UPB
(Canada: \$387; outside Canada: US\$387).

Building permits, August 1999
Catalogue number 64-001-XIB
(Canada: \$19/\$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.

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Statistics Canada	
Thursday, June 3, 1997	
For release at 8:30 a.m.	
MAJOR RELEASES	
• Urban transit, 1995 Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1995, each Canadian took an average of about 40 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.	2
• Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995 Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was notably weak again in 1995, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow nominal growth during the year.	4
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