



The Daily

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 Industrial prices remained strong in October, advancing for an eighth consecutive month. Also, manufacturers received 2.4% more for their goods than in October 1998, with petroleum prices leading the increase.

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- **Raw Materials Price Index, October 1999**
 In October, manufacturers paid somewhat less for their raw materials compared with the previous month. Overall, raw material prices fell 1.1% as lower prices for crude oil, grains, most base metals and oilseeds were partly offset by higher prices for gold, nickel, cattle, hogs and fish.

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MAJOR RELEASES

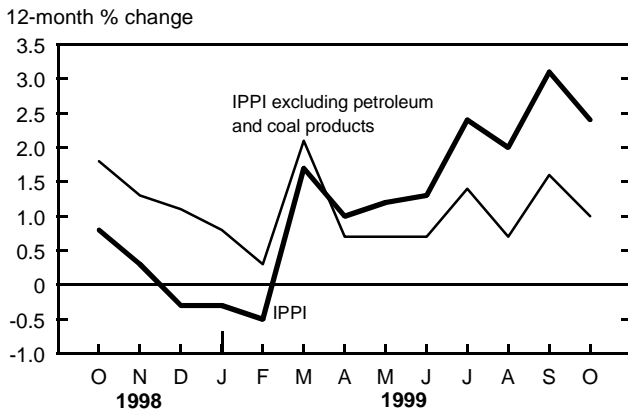
Industrial Product Price Index

October 1999

Industrial prices remained strong in October, advancing for an eighth consecutive month.

Manufacturers received 2.4% more for their goods than in October 1998, with petroleum prices leading the increase. Higher prices for chemicals and chemical products, primary metal products, lumber and meats also contributed.

Petroleum product prices push up IPPI



Prices edged up 0.1% from September as widespread growth across commodities was nearly offset by weaker lumber prices.

The Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI) stood at 123.2 (1992=100) in October, up from 123.1 in September.

Gasoline and fuel oil prices continued upward trend

Gasoline and fuel oil prices continued their upward trend in October, rising 1.7% and contributing to a 1.5% increase in the petroleum and coal product price grouping. In contrast, monthly crude oil prices, as measured by the Raw Materials Price Index, dropped 4.4% in October.

In general, prices for the petroleum and coal product group have been on the upswing since their recent low in February. Prices rebounded after the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) committed to cutting production in an effort to restore

Note to readers

The Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI) reflects the prices that producers in Canada receive as the goods leave the plant gate. It does not reflect what the consumer pays. Unlike the Consumer Price Index, the IPPI excludes indirect taxes and all the costs that occur between the time when a good leaves the plant and the time when the final user takes possession of it, including the transportation, wholesale and retail costs.

Canadian producers export many goods. They often quote their prices in foreign currencies, particularly for motor vehicles, pulp, paper, and wood products. A rise or fall in the value of the Canadian dollar against the U.S. dollar therefore affects the IPPI. A 1.0% change in the value of the Canadian dollar against the U.S. dollar has been estimated to change the IPPI by approximately 0.3%.

prices. So far, OPEC has largely been successful at maintaining cuts and sustaining prices. Consequently, prices for gasoline and fuel oil have jumped 31.1% since October 1998, pushing petroleum and coal product prices 30.7% higher.

The upward trend of petroleum product prices has had a substantial impact on the overall Industrial Product Price Index. If petroleum and coal products were excluded, overall prices would have remained unchanged from September to October. The year-over-year increase would have been reduced to less than half the actual increase of 2.4%.

Further weakening in lumber prices

Lumber prices weakened a further 6.3% in October, leaving them 18.8% below their recent peak in July. As the building season winds down, lumber sales generally tend to taper off and prices have fallen accordingly.

Prices for hardwood (+0.4%) fared better than softwood (-6.5%). In both cases, domestic prices were stronger than those for exports.

Despite recent losses, lumber prices rose 9.8% above October 1998 levels, reflecting a strong North American housing market. In the United States, housing starts increased 5% during the first nine months of the year compared with the same period in 1998.

Newspaper prices recovered

The paper and paper products category advanced 1.2% in October, reflecting gains in newspaper and paper product prices.

Newsprint prices staged a recovery in October, gaining 3.9%. Prospects of a pickup in Asian demand

helped this industry, which has withstood lacklustre prices through most of 1999. Newsprint prices remained 20.0% lower than a year earlier.

In contrast, pulp prices edged down slightly in October on the heels of a seven-month string of price increases. Meanwhile, pulp prices remained quite robust on a yearly basis, posting a 13.7% gain.

The yearly gain in pulp prices overshadowed the drop in newsprint prices, leaving paper and paper products up marginally on a 12-month basis.

Industrial chemical prices edged up

Industrial chemical prices edged up in October, continuing an upward trend that has left prices 12.0% above the levels in October 1998. Prices were boosted by those for ethylene, which contributed to a 30.0% gain in prices for organic chemicals. Synthetic resin prices also had a strong showing (+11.5%) on a yearly basis.

Jump in gold prices

Spurred by higher gold prices, primary metal prices continued to strengthen in October (+0.6%), with only copper products showing a monthly decline.

Gold and gold-alloy primary product prices climbed 22.8% in October, the largest monthly increase in over 17 years. Prices were boosted when 15 European central banks pledged to limit the sales and lending of their gold for five years. This jump in prices helped lead to the first positive 12-month change in gold prices since March of this year.

After hitting a five-year low in 1998, nickel product prices have been rebounding throughout most of 1999, gaining a further 2.0% in October. Supply has been curtailed by a strike at an important Canadian nickel operation at a time of growing demand from the stainless steel industry. Nickel prices stood 75.7% above their October 1998 level.

Recent gains have left primary metal product prices 3.8% higher on a 12-month basis. Only iron and steel product prices registered a yearly decline.

Large 12-month gain in hog prices

Primary meat prices remained unchanged in October, as the effects of higher turkey prices (+3.3%) were offset by slipping beef and pork prices. Typically, the demand for turkey starts to pick up at this time of year.

Fuelled by rising pork prices, primary meat product prices posted a 6.3% yearly gain.

Plagued by oversupply problems, hog prices tumbled in the latter part of 1998 and have been recovering throughout much of 1999. According to Statistics Canada's October Hog Survey, inventories were down 2.8% from the peak of October 1, 1998. As a result, pork prices were 28.5% higher than a year ago.

Exchange rate effect

Certain commodities (namely motor vehicles, lumber, pulp, newsprint and certain metals) often have their prices quoted in U.S. dollars. Consequently, exchange rate fluctuations have an impact on their contribution to the Industrial Product Price Index.

If the exchange rate had remained unchanged from September to October, the index would have declined 0.1% rather than growing 0.1%.

On a yearly basis, a higher valued Canadian dollar muted the increase in the IPPI. If the exchange rate had been the same in October 1998 as in October 1999, the IPPI would have risen more substantially (+3.5%).

International 12-month price changes

| | Month | Change % |
|---|-----------|-------------|
| Manufacturer's prices | | |
| Canada | October | 2.4 |
| U.S. | October | 2.9 |
| Japan (domestic wholesale prices) | October | -0.8 |
| U.K. (domestic manufacturing output prices) | October | 1.9 |
| Italy | September | 0.8 |
| Germany | September | -0.5 |
| France | September | -0.6 |

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1870-1878.

The October 1999 issue of *Industry price indexes* (62-011-XPB, \$22/\$217) will be available at the end of December. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Client Services Unit (613-951-3350; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca), Prices Division. □

Industrial product price indexes
(1992=100)

| | Relative importance | October 1998 | September 1999 ^r | October 1999 ^p | October 1998 to October 1999 | September to October 1999 |
|---|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | | % change | |
| Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI) | 100.00 | 120.3 | 123.1 | 123.2 | 2.4 | 0.1 |
| Intermediate goods¹ | 59.28 | 119.2 | 123.6 | 123.5 | 3.6 | -0.1 |
| First-stage intermediate goods ² | 7.91 | 116.0 | 129.5 | 129.9 | 12.0 | 0.3 |
| Second-stage intermediate goods ³ | 51.37 | 119.7 | 122.7 | 122.5 | 2.3 | -0.2 |
| Finished goods⁴ | 40.72 | 121.8 | 122.4 | 122.8 | 0.8 | 0.3 |
| Finished foods and feeds | 10.38 | 113.0 | 114.5 | 114.5 | 1.3 | 0.0 |
| Capital equipment | 10.21 | 126.9 | 125.1 | 125.3 | -1.3 | 0.2 |
| All other finished goods | 20.13 | 123.7 | 125.1 | 125.8 | 1.7 | 0.6 |
| Aggregation by commodities | | | | | | |
| Meat, fish and dairy products | 7.27 | 116.7 | 121.3 | 121.2 | 3.9 | -0.1 |
| Fruit, vegetable, feed, miscellaneous food products | 6.72 | 111.5 | 110.3 | 110.1 | -1.3 | -0.2 |
| Beverages | 2.12 | 114.5 | 115.8 | 115.8 | 1.1 | 0.0 |
| Tobacco and tobacco products | 0.72 | 131.3 | 139.4 | 139.4 | 6.2 | 0.0 |
| Rubber, leather, plastic fabric products | 3.01 | 113.4 | 114.7 | 115.3 | 1.7 | 0.5 |
| Textile products | 1.82 | 110.1 | 108.6 | 108.4 | -1.5 | -0.2 |
| Knitted products and clothing | 1.93 | 110.0 | 110.0 | 110.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 |
| Lumber, sawmill, other wood products | 5.20 | 135.5 | 151.0 | 144.1 | 6.3 | -4.6 |
| Furniture and fixtures | 1.46 | 114.8 | 116.5 | 116.5 | 1.5 | 0.0 |
| Pulp and paper products | 7.65 | 128.7 | 128.1 | 129.7 | 0.8 | 1.2 |
| Printing and publishing | 3.05 | 132.5 | 134.3 | 135.1 | 2.0 | 0.6 |
| Primary metal products | 7.58 | 120.0 | 123.8 | 124.6 | 3.8 | 0.6 |
| Metal fabricated products | 4.11 | 123.7 | 123.6 | 123.5 | -0.2 | -0.1 |
| Machinery and equipment | 4.08 | 114.6 | 115.0 | 115.0 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| Autos, trucks, other transportation equipment | 18.76 | 135.3 | 131.2 | 131.7 | -2.7 | 0.4 |
| Electrical and communications products | 6.03 | 108.1 | 106.9 | 106.8 | -1.2 | -0.1 |
| Non-metallic mineral products | 2.12 | 112.7 | 115.3 | 115.3 | 2.3 | 0.0 |
| Petroleum and coal products ⁵ | 6.01 | 96.0 | 123.6 | 125.5 | 30.7 | 1.5 |
| Chemicals and chemical products | 7.60 | 113.1 | 119.3 | 119.5 | 5.7 | 0.2 |
| Miscellaneous manufactured products | 2.45 | 118.5 | 118.5 | 120.4 | 1.6 | 1.6 |
| Miscellaneous non-manufactured commodities | 0.31 | 115.8 | 121.2 | 120.4 | 4.0 | -0.7 |

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

¹ Intermediate goods are used principally to produce other goods.

² First-stage intermediate goods are used most frequently to produce other intermediate goods.

³ Second-stage intermediate goods are most commonly used to produce final goods.

⁴ Finished goods are most commonly used for immediate consumption or for capital investment.

⁵ This index is estimated for the current month.

Raw Materials Price Index

October 1999 (preliminary)

In October, manufacturers paid somewhat less for their raw materials compared with the previous month.

Overall, raw material prices fell 1.1% as lower prices for crude oil, grains, most base metals and oilseeds were partly offset by higher prices for gold, nickel, cattle, hogs and fish.

The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI) stood at 124.7 in October (1992=100), down from its revised September level of 126.1.

Compared with 12 months earlier, raw material prices in October were up 15.8%. Higher prices for crude oil, animal products, non-ferrous metals and wood were partly offset by lower prices for vegetable products and ferrous materials.

Crude oil prices down for first time in eight months

Crude oil prices fell 4.4% in October, marking the first decline in eight months. However, prices remained 56.0% higher than 12 months earlier. Crude oil prices in October weakened as the supply of crude oil was subject to greater production. The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), excluding Iraq, increased its output somewhat.

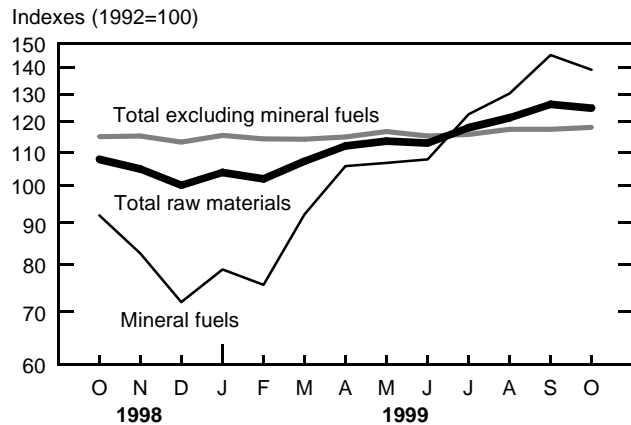
As well, a further rise in the United Nations' permitted sales of Iraqi oil and Norway's recent decision to hike its oil production rates to previous levels added to the overall supply. However, demand for crude oil due to the arrival of the heating oil season as well as the slow economic recovery in Japan, aided by other faster growing Asian economies, may add upward pressure to crude oil prices in the coming months.

By virtue of its weight in the RMPI, mineral fuels (90% of which is crude oil) exert considerable influence over the total RMPI. If mineral fuels were excluded, raw material prices for October would have gone in a different direction, increasing 0.6%. The impact of mineral fuels was even more pronounced on a 12-month basis. If mineral fuels were excluded, the RMPI would have increased only 2.7%.

Note to readers

The Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI) reflects the prices paid by Canadian manufacturers for key raw materials. Many of these prices are set in a world market. Also, unlike the Industrial Product Price Index, the RMPI includes goods that are not produced in Canada.

Lower crude oil prices lead to a decrease in the RMPI



Vegetable product prices almost offset each other

On a month-to-month basis, vegetable product prices showed little overall change in October (-0.2%). Lower prices for grains (-2.3%), oilseeds (-1.8%) and raw tobacco (-3.0%) were almost offset by higher prices for coffee (+17.7%) and natural rubber (+9.9%).

In October, grain inventories were at high levels, with wheat inventories at their highest since 1987. Green coffee prices were up significantly in October due to drought conditions in Brazil. Previously, coffee-growing conditions were deemed ideal, with Brazil heading for a record crop. Now some forecasts are noting a potential drop of up to one-third of the Brazilian crop.

Compared with 12 months earlier, vegetable product prices were down 10.1%. Lower prices for oilseeds (-24.9%), grains (-7.4%), unrefined sugar (-15.4%) and coffee (-11.6%) were somewhat offset by higher prices for fresh potatoes (+45.3%).

Cattle and calf prices up

Animals and animal product prices increased 1.6% in October compared with the previous month. Contributing to the higher prices were cattle and calves (+2.7%), hogs (+2.9%) and fresh fish (+5.1%).

Compared with October 1998, prices were up 5.5%. Higher prices for cattle and calves (+8.6%), hogs (+11.9%) and unprocessed whole fluid milk (+3.4%), which were offset somewhat by lower prices for chickens (-2.5%), were the major contributors. Sales of cattle at feedlots were higher than expected, signalling potentially strong demand for beef.

Nickel prices at highest level in more than two years

Non-ferrous metal prices edged down 0.1% in October, after increasing 13.1% over the previous three months. Lower prices for copper concentrates (-3.0%), lead concentrates (-15.0%) and zinc concentrates (-2.5%) were almost offset by higher prices for gold (+22.8%) and nickel concentrates (+5.7%). Nickel prices were at their highest level in more than two years as a lockout at the world's second largest producer disrupted supplies of nickel during a time of increasing demand from stainless steel makers, the largest users of the metal.

Compared with the same period last year, non-ferrous metal prices were up 6.0%. Higher prices for nickel concentrates (+80.4%), aluminum materials (+10.1%) and copper concentrates (+4.1%) were partly offset by lower prices for lead concentrates (-25.9%) and other non-ferrous refined metals.

Pulpwood prices remain low

Wood prices edged up in October (+0.1%), as slightly higher pulpwood prices (+0.6%) were almost

entirely offset by lower log prices (-0.1%). Compared with 12 months earlier, wood prices were up 5.5%. This was reflected in the higher prices for logs (+8.5%), which were partly offset by lower prices for pulpwood (-3.9%). Pulp prices, as reflected in the industrial product prices, were up 13.7% compared with October 1998. However, compared with October 1995, pulp prices remained 36.4% lower and pulpwood prices were also down 18.2% for the same period. For sawmill activity to increase significantly for chips and, subsequently, for lumber production, many analysts feel that pulp prices will have to increase a lot further.

On the positive side, housing starts in Japan appear relatively strong. They began a period of year-over-year increases in March of this year. Prior to that, Japan had not shown such increases for 27 months. The steady recovery of the Japanese housing market, even though it recently appears to have reached a plateau, should still be encouraging for British Columbia lumber sales.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 1879.

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Raw materials price indexes (1992=100)

| | Relative importance | October 1998 | September 1999 ^r | October 1999 ^p | October 1998 to October 1999 | September to October 1999 |
|---|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | % change | | | | |
| Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI) | 100.00 | 107.7 | 126.1 | 124.7 | 15.8 | -1.1 |
| Mineral fuels | 31.47 | 91.8 | 145.1 | 139.1 | 51.5 | -4.1 |
| Vegetable products | 9.41 | 124.0 | 111.7 | 111.5 | -10.1 | -0.2 |
| Animals and animal products | 24.41 | 105.6 | 109.6 | 111.4 | 5.5 | 1.6 |
| Wood | 14.88 | 129.1 | 136.1 | 136.2 | 5.5 | 0.1 |
| Ferrous materials | 3.17 | 124.0 | 117.6 | 118.0 | -4.8 | 0.3 |
| Non-ferrous metals | 13.81 | 108.2 | 114.8 | 114.7 | 6.0 | -0.1 |
| Non-metallic minerals | 2.85 | 115.5 | 119.3 | 118.7 | 2.8 | -0.5 |
| RMPI excluding mineral fuels | 68.53 | 115.0 | 117.4 | 118.1 | 2.7 | 0.6 |

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

OTHER RELEASES

Employment, earnings and hours

September 1999 (preliminary)

In September, average earnings for all employees increased by \$2.12 to an estimated \$613.92 per week. Employees earned 1.5% more per week compared with September 1998. Annual gains in average earnings have been below 2.0% since May 1997.

At the industry level, average earnings growth in the last 12 months ranged from 3.9% for employees in construction to only 0.5% for employees in public administration. Most of the earnings growth in construction was due to longer hours worked by hourly rated employees.

Hourly rated employees in all industries worked an average of 31.4 hours (including overtime) in September, down 0.2 hours from August. Average overtime hours for hourly rated employees remained unchanged from August at 1.1 hours per week.

Average hourly earnings for hourly rated employees were unchanged from August at \$15.37. Average hourly earnings advanced 2.4% in the past 12 months, with the strongest gains in service-producing industries.

Payroll employment increased substantially in September. Total employment increased by 43,000 with strong gains in manufacturing and wholesale and retail trade. Employment levels increased in all provinces with the exceptions of British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

Note: Statistics Canada has completed the third phase of its redesign in the use of administrative records for the production of employment, earnings and hours estimates. With the change in methodology, employment estimates derived from administrative records may show a different seasonal pattern than the previous data, which were derived from survey questionnaires. The impact on seasonal patterns due to this change in methodology can only be assessed over a longer time period. Statistics Canada will continue to monitor these developments and will help users interpret its data. To minimize impacts, data from the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours, particularly employment data, should 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 December through standard tables in the monthly publication *Employment, earnings and hours* (72-002-XPB, \$32/\$320). Annual averages for 1998 are now available through CANSIM, on diskette, CD-ROM, via the Internet and by custom tabulations from Labour Statistics Division. See *How to order publications*.

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

Average weekly earnings for all employees

| Industry group (1980 S.I.C.) | September 1998 | August 1999 ^r | September 1999 ^p | August to September 1999 | September 1998 to September 1999 |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| | seasonally adjusted | | | | |
| | \$ | | | % change | |
| Industrial aggregate | 604.63 | 611.80 | 613.92 | 0.3 | 1.5 |
| Logging and forestry | 756.04 | 793.07 | 774.01 | -2.4 | 2.4 |
| Mining, quarrying and oil wells | 1,101.00 | 1,129.80 | 1,122.52 | -0.6 | 2.0 |
| Manufacturing | 748.94 | 763.40 | 761.40 | -0.3 | 1.7 |
| Construction | 682.14 | 700.10 | 708.45 | 1.2 | 3.9 |
| Transportation and storage | 735.82 | 735.36 | 740.37 | 0.7 | 0.6 |
| Communication and other utilities | 803.52 | 817.44 | 820.97 | 0.4 | 2.2 |
| Wholesale trade | 665.28 | 664.43 | 667.07 | 0.4 | 0.3 |
| Retail trade | 368.04 | 373.27 | 375.11 | 0.5 | 1.9 |
| Finance and insurance | 807.65 | 808.79 | 813.48 | 0.6 | 0.7 |
| Real estate operators and insurance agencies | 634.77 | 637.38 | 648.27 | 1.7 | 2.1 |
| Business services | 692.88 | 701.37 | 703.33 | 0.3 | 1.5 |
| Education-related services | 652.25 | 650.52 | 656.22 | 0.9 | 0.6 |
| Health and social services | 523.83 | 525.83 | 529.29 | 0.7 | 1.0 |
| Accommodation, food and beverage services | 229.51 | 231.18 | 235.61 | 1.9 | 2.7 |
| Public administration | 734.35 | 742.18 | 737.78 | -0.6 | 0.5 |
| Miscellaneous services | 406.12 | 411.83 | 414.41 | 0.6 | 2.0 |
| Provinces and territories | | | | | |
| Newfoundland | 528.31 | 542.22 | 542.1 | -0.0 | 2.6 |
| Prince Edward Island | 477.97 | 483.60 | 480.33 | -0.7 | 0.5 |
| Nova Scotia | 505.37 | 518.55 | 518.71 | 0.0 | 2.6 |
| New Brunswick | 524.82 | 537.80 | 541.42 | 0.7 | 3.2 |
| Quebec | 566.48 | 570.49 | 575.90 | 0.9 | 1.7 |
| Ontario | 642.75 | 654.36 | 657.71 | 0.5 | 2.3 |
| Manitoba | 545.12 | 542.99 | 543.52 | 0.1 | -0.3 |
| Saskatchewan | 538.66 | 542.71 | 545.39 | 0.5 | 1.2 |
| Alberta | 610.83 | 620.86 | 620.91 | 0.0 | 1.7 |
| British Columbia | 620.31 | 622.27 | 621.39 | -0.1 | 0.2 |
| Yukon | 668.41 | 696.56 | 729.69 | 4.8 | 9.2 |
| Northwest Territories and Nunavut | 723.98 | 785.20 | 779.50 | -0.7 | 7.7 |

^r Revised estimates.

^p Preliminary estimates.

Number of employees

| Industry group (1980 S.I.C.) | July 1999 | August 1999 ^r | September 1999 ^p | July to August 1999 | August to September 1999 |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | seasonally adjusted | | | | |
| | thousands | | | % change | |
| Industrial aggregate | 11,820 | 11,796 | 11,839 | -0.2 | 0.4 |
| Logging and forestry | 65 | 65 | 65 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Mining, quarrying and oil wells | 135 | 135 | 133 | 0.0 | -1.5 |
| Manufacturing | 1,910 | 1,910 | 1,929 | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| Construction | 519 | 516 | 518 | -0.6 | 0.4 |
| Transportation and storage | 502 | 500 | 503 | -0.4 | 0.6 |
| Communication and other utilities | 382 | 382 | 386 | 0.0 | 1.0 |
| Wholesale trade | 768 | 766 | 775 | -0.3 | 1.2 |
| Retail trade | 1,448 | 1,428 | 1,439 | -1.4 | 0.8 |
| Finance and insurance | 527 | 530 | 533 | 0.6 | 0.6 |
| Real estate operators and insurances agencies | 198 | 195 | 194 | -1.5 | -0.5 |
| Business services | 858 | 860 | 866 | 0.2 | 0.7 |
| Education-related services | 929 | 927 | 923 | -0.2 | -0.4 |
| Health and social services | 1,215 | 1,214 | 1,219 | -0.1 | 0.4 |
| Accommodation, food and beverage services | 846 | 846 | 849 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| Public administration | 676 | 676 | 678 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| Miscellaneous services | 696 | 697 | 701 | 0.1 | 0.6 |
| Provinces and territories | | | | | |
| Newfoundland | 151 | 150 | 154 | -0.7 | 2.7 |
| Prince Edward Island | 50 | 51 | 52 | 2.0 | 2.0 |
| Nova Scotia | 328 | 326 | 330 | -0.6 | 1.2 |
| New Brunswick | 265 | 263 | 268 | -0.8 | 1.9 |
| Quebec | 2,794 | 2,792 | 2,807 | -0.1 | 0.5 |
| Ontario | 4,679 | 4,668 | 4,678 | -0.2 | 0.2 |
| Manitoba | 460 | 458 | 460 | -0.4 | 0.4 |
| Saskatchewan | 355 | 353 | 353 | -0.6 | 0.0 |
| Alberta | 1,224 | 1,225 | 1,228 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| British Columbia | 1,477 | 1,470 | 1,469 | -0.5 | -0.1 |
| Yukon | 15 | 15 | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Northwest Territories and Nunavut | 27 | 26 | 26 | -3.7 | 0.0 |

^r Revised estimates.

^p Preliminary estimates.

Domestic travel Second quarter 1999

Canadians made 36.4 million trips within Canada in the second quarter of 1999, up 8.2% (2.7 million trips) compared with the second quarter of 1998, and the most trips recorded since the second quarter of 1996 — the first year this type of comparison can be made.

An exceptionally warm spring in Canada, an unfavourable Canada-U.S. exchange rate for Canadians and the continued consumption of goods and services, albeit at a less frantic pace, may have led Canadians to travel more within the country. Travellers in the 45-54 age bracket made the most trips, accounting for 42% of the increase of 2.7 million trips in the second quarter.

The 32.3 million trips taken by Canadians within their own province (intra-provincial travel) were responsible for the increased number of trips taken in the second quarter of 1999. This type of travel increased 9.6% over the same quarter a year earlier, whereas inter-provincial travel declined 1.9% to 4.1 million trips.

Total expenditures for all domestic travel in the second quarter of 1999 reached \$4.7 billion, up 5.6% over the same quarter in 1998. This increase was only slightly higher than the increase in the cost of travel, which was 5% for the same period. The 17.0% increase in expenditures for intra-provincial travel was somewhat mitigated by a 9.6% drop for inter-provincial travel. This decrease was due in part to fewer inter-provincial travellers and in part to reduced

expenditures by travellers on lodging (-18.4%) and on food and beverages purchased in restaurants and bars (-26.3%). Total expenditures for intra-provincial travel in the second quarter of 1999 came to \$3.0 billion, compared with \$1.7 billion in expenditures for inter-provincial travel.

The split between overnight trips (18.1 million) and same-day trips (18.3 million) was nearly even in the second quarter of 1999. There was a greater increase in same-day trips (12.7%) in the second quarter, whereas overnight trips increased by only 4.0% over the same quarter a year earlier. Average expenditures during overnight trips were \$205 per person and \$74 per person each night for an average length of 2.8 nights. Four out of ten nights were spent in accommodations deemed commercial.

Note: Domestic travel is defined as any trip of 80 kilometers or more one way, taken by Canadian residents and having a Canadian destination.

Various statistical profiles and microdata files are available on request. For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality for this release, contact Lizette Gervais-Simard (613-951-1672; fax: 613-951-2909; gervliz@statcan.ca), Tourism Statistics Program.

For more information on the tourism industry, contact Anne-Marie Hince (613-952-1117; fax: 613-954-3826; hince.annemarie@ic.gc.ca), Canadian Tourism Commission. ■

Railway carloadings

Seven-day period ending November 14, 1999

Non-intermodal traffic loaded during the seven-day period ending November 14, 1999 increased 3.0% to 4.7 million tonnes compared with the same period last year. The number of cars loaded increased 4.6%.

Intermodal traffic tonnage totalled 357 000 tonnes, down 3.3% compared with the same period last year. The year-to-date figures advanced 13.0%.

Total traffic increased 2.6% during the period. This brought the year-to-date total to 222.7 million tonnes, down 0.8% 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. ■

Cereals and oilseeds review

September 1999

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

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality for this release, contact Les Macartney (613-951-8714; les.macartney@statcan.ca), Grain Marketing Unit, Agriculture Division. ■

Stocks of frozen meat products

November 1999

Total frozen meat in cold storage at the opening of the first business day of November totalled 51,992 tonnes, down from 56,056 tonnes last month and 54,727 tonnes a year ago.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 87 and 9518-9525.

Tables for *Stocks of frozen meat products* (23-009-XIE) are now available free on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca). The menu path is *Products and services*, then *Downloadable publications (free)*.

For general enquires, call toll-free at 1 800 216-2299. For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jamie Duffy (613-951-6356; duffjam@statcan.ca) or Robert Plourde (613-951-8716), Agriculture Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Infomat - A weekly review, November 26, 1999
Catalogue number 11-002-XIE
(Canada: \$3/\$109).

Infomat - A weekly review, November 26, 1999
Catalogue number 11-002-XPE
(Canada: \$4/\$145; outside Canada: US\$4/US\$145).

Canadian international merchandise trade,
September 1999
Catalogue number 65-001-XIB
(Canada: \$14/\$141).

Canadian international merchandise trade,
September 1999
Catalogue number 65-001-XPB
(Canada: \$19/\$188; outside Canada: US\$19/US\$188).

Imports by country, January to September 1999
Catalogue number 65-006-XPB
(Canada: \$124/\$412; outside Canada:
US\$124/US\$412).

**Science statistics, service bulletin: Research and
development expenditures of private, non-profit
organizations**, vol. 23, no. 8
Catalogue number 88-001-XIB
(Canada: \$6/\$59).

All prices exclude sales tax.

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are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are
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Thursday, June 9, 1997
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- **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

- **High-wire index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 2
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 13
- **EGG predictor, April 1997** 12

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RELEASE DATES: WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29 TO DECEMBER 3

Week of November 29 to December 3

(Release dates are subject to change.)

| Release date | Title | Reference period |
|---------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 29 | International travel account | July-Sept. 1999 |
| 29 | Characteristics of international travellers | April-June 1999 |
| 30 | National economic and financial accounts | July-Sept. 1999 |
| 30 | Balance of international payments | July-Sept. 1999 |
| 30 | Real gross domestic product at factor cost by industry | September 1999 |
| 1 | Help-wanted Index | November 1999 |
| 1 | Perspectives on labour and income | Winter 1999 |
| 3 | Labour Force Survey | November 1999 |
| 3 | Field crop reporting series: November crop production estimates | 1999 |
