



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, February 25, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **Industrial Product Price Index, January 1999** 3  
Industrial product prices declined 0.3% in January to stand slightly below their level a year earlier. The 12-month decline would have been much larger except for the effect of the exchange rate on Canadian prices quoted in U.S dollars.
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In January, raw material prices increased 3.8% compared with December. Total prices moved ahead for the first time in four months on the strength of crude oil and hogs.
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The leading index rose 0.4% in January, matching its upward revised gain in December. The advances in the last two months were the largest since June, as the economy showed few signs of slowing down.

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### Dimensions series

1996 Census

The *Dimensions series* demonstrates the analytical potential of census information. Released today is the third of seven CD-ROMs, entitled *Labour force and household activities of Canadians* (94F0006XCB, \$60). In this CD, the user can access tables on household activities of Canadians, as well as tables on occupation and industry in the labour force. The data are cross-classified with a number of census variables, including school attendance, marital status, immigration status, and period of immigration.

The CD-ROM is packaged with the software Beyond 20/20™. With many powerful features, the browser allows the user to quickly and easily search and sort data, and to copy tables and charts to other Windows applications.

For further information, contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre.



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## MAJOR RELEASES

### Industrial Product Price Index

January 1999 (preliminary)

Industrial product prices declined 0.3% in January to stand slightly below their level a year earlier. The 12-month decline would have been much larger except for the effect of the exchange rate on Canadian prices quoted in U.S. dollars.

The Industrial Product Price Index in January was 119.2 (1992=100), down from 119.5 (revised) in December 1998.

The most significant price decreases in January were for motor vehicles and for products from the refined petroleum industries. Prices were up somewhat for both pork and beef.

#### Effect of exchange rate remains strong

Between mid-December and mid-January, the value of the U.S. dollar against the Canadian dollar weakened slightly, edging down to a little under C\$1.53 in mid-January. A year earlier, in mid-January 1998, it had been somewhat under C\$1.44.

If the effects of the changes in the value of the Canadian dollar were excluded for export prices quoted in U.S. dollars, industrial product prices would have been unchanged from December, while the 12-month change would have been -2.0%.

#### 12-month change in prices for non-food consumer goods negative

The Consumer Price Index for goods, excluding food purchased from stores, was down 0.4% from a year earlier.

For manufacturers, the 12-month change in prices for finished goods, other than capital goods or foods and feeds, was 2.4%. However, this increase was basically due to the effect of the exchange rate on the prices of exported goods quoted in U.S. dollars. If this effect were removed, the change would have been -0.4%.

#### Manufacturing industry prices in the United States and Canada down from a year earlier

In the United States, manufacturers saw an increase in their overall price level from December to January. The 12-month change in U.S. manufacturing prices, however, remained negative in January at -0.1%.

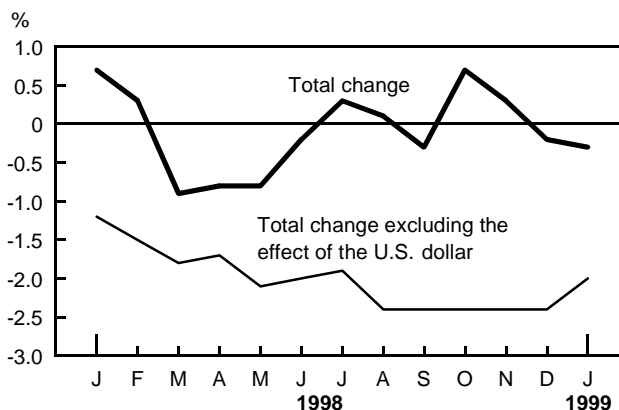
#### Note to readers

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 (CPI), 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%.

In Canada, the 12-month change in manufacturing prices edged down from -0.2% in December to -0.3% in January. In addition, if the effect of the Canada-U.S. exchange rate were removed, the 12-month change in prices would have been -2.0%.

Canada-U.S. exchange rate boosts 12-month change in manufacturing prices



#### Prices down for motor vehicles and for products from the refined petroleum industries

Motor vehicle prices declined in January. The decline was mainly due to the effect of the fall in the value of the U.S. dollar in terms of the Canadian dollar. About 90% of motor vehicles manufactured in Canada are exported, mostly to the United States. Export prices were down for both automobiles (-0.8%) and trucks

(-0.7%). Domestic automobile prices, however, were up 1.8% while domestic truck prices edged up 0.1%. The increase in domestic automobile prices was due to some upward price adjustments by manufacturers.

The price level for the refined petroleum product industries continued to decline in January (-1.6%) and stands 18.1% lower than in January 1998 and 31.7% lower than in January 1997. Crude oil prices, though, were up 10.2% in what may prove to have been a temporary rally. The increase has been partly attributed to concern over inventory levels in the United States. Despite the rise, crude oil prices remained 24.5% lower than a year earlier. At the consumer level, as noted in the Consumer Price Index, the overall level of gasoline prices was up slightly. Gasoline prices were up in Ontario and Quebec after strong price competition in the previous month.

### Prices up for meat

Pork prices jumped 14.6% in January, yet remained 6.2% below their level a year earlier. Beef prices were also up, increasing 1.9% to stand 4.5% higher than a year earlier. In January, the agricultural sector also saw higher prices for hogs and, to a lesser degree, for cattle.

### 12-month price changes January 1998-January 1999

	Change	Excluding exchange rate effect
	%	
<b>Manufacturer's prices</b>		
All goods	-0.3	-2.0
Intermediate goods <sup>1</sup>	-2.3	-3.7
First stage goods <sup>2</sup>	-9.6	-11.4
Second stage goods <sup>3</sup>	-1.1	-2.4
Finished goods <sup>4</sup>	2.5	0.3
Foods and feeds	1.0	0.9
Capital goods	4.0	0.9
Other finished goods	2.4	-0.4
<b>Other prices</b>		
Raw material prices (RMPI)	-9.9	..
Retail prices (CPI)		
Food purchased from stores	1.1	..
Goods excluding food purchased from stores	-0.4	..
U.S. manufacturers' prices	-0.1	..

<sup>1</sup> Used as inputs into industry.

<sup>2</sup> Used as inputs into basic industries

<sup>3</sup> Used as inputs into other industries.

<sup>4</sup> Used for immediate consumption or for capital investment.

.. Not available

### Lower prices for inputs into basic industries reflect lower Canadian dollar and lower raw material prices

In January, manufacturers of goods used mainly as industry inputs (intermediate goods) were continuing to see appreciably lower prices (-2.3%) than a year earlier. This was particularly the case for the prices of goods used mainly as inputs into the primary metal, wood, pulp and some chemical industries (-9.6%). These industries are defined here as basic industries.

The notable drop in prices of goods used as inputs into basic industries also reflected the much lower prices for raw materials than a year ago (-9.9%).

If the effects of the Canada-U.S. exchange rate on input goods were excluded, the declines would have been significantly larger for all intermediate goods (-3.7%) and for goods used primarily as inputs into basic industries (-11.4%).

### Overview

In Canada, seasonally adjusted total employment was up in January with the gain coming from full-time employment. Manufacturing saw a sharp increase in employment after two months of little change. Housing starts and housing resales, though, were both down in January.

December's seasonally adjusted figures showed increases in manufacturing shipments and sales in the wholesale sector. Exports and retail sales, however, were down marginally.

In the United States, Canada's major trading partner, industrial production was steady in January though manufacturing output rose slightly. The unemployment rate was constant at 4.3%, as non-agricultural employment continued to increase. In manufacturing, employment continued to decline. Housing starts and applications for residential building permits were both up.

In Japan, Canada's second largest national export market, monthly industrial production rose in December but still stood 6.4% lower than a year earlier. The 12-month change in Japanese domestic wholesale prices was -2.3% in January, little changed from December.

The European Union (EU) is an even larger export market for Canada than Japan. The four European G7 members dominate it. For these countries, the most recent figures for the 12-month change in industrial prices were 0.0% in the United Kingdom (January), -1.3% in Italy (December), -1.7% in Germany (December) and -2.6% in France (December).

In December, German industrial production continued to drop. In the United Kingdom, industrial production was down after being unchanged for two months. Industrial production in Italy was sharply down in December. In France, however, industrial production rose to a new high for 1998 in November.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1870-1878.

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

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

# Industrial product price indexes (1992=100)

	Relative importance	Jan. 1998	Dec. 1998 <sup>r</sup>	Jan. 1999 <sup>p</sup>	Jan. 1998 to Jan. 1999	Dec. 1998 to Jan. 1999
					% change	
<b>Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI)</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>119.6</b>	<b>119.5</b>	<b>119.2</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
<b>Intermediate goods<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>59.28</b>	<b>120.8</b>	<b>118.3</b>	<b>118.0</b>	<b>-2.3</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
First-stage intermediate goods <sup>2</sup>	7.91	125.1	114.3	113.1	-9.6	-1.0
Second-stage intermediate goods <sup>3</sup>	51.37	120.1	118.9	118.8	-1.1	-0.1
<b>Finished goods<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>40.72</b>	<b>118.0</b>	<b>121.2</b>	<b>120.9</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
Finished foods and feeds	10.38	111.7	112.7	112.8	1.0	0.1
Capital equipment	10.21	121.4	126.7	126.3	4.0	-0.3
All other finished goods	20.13	119.4	122.7	122.3	2.4	-0.3
<b>Aggregation by commodities</b>						
Meat, fish and dairy products	7.27	116.2	115.1	116.7	0.4	1.4
Fruit, vegetable, feed, miscellaneous food products	6.72	114.2	112.3	111.7	-2.2	-0.5
Beverages	2.12	111.7	114.7	114.5	2.5	-0.2
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.72	129.4	131.3	131.5	1.6	0.2
Rubber, leather, plastic fabric products	3.01	113.4	113.5	113.3	-0.1	-0.2
Textile products	1.82	110.6	109.9	109.5	-1.0	-0.4
Knitted products and clothing	1.93	108.6	109.9	109.9	1.2	0.0
Lumber, sawmill, other wood products	5.20	135.1	136.3	137.3	1.6	0.7
Furniture and fixtures	1.46	114.3	115.0	115.1	0.7	0.1
Pulp and paper products	7.65	130.8	127.9	127.1	-2.8	-0.6
Printing and publishing	3.05	129.5	132.6	133.1	2.8	0.4
Primary metal products	7.58	124.2	116.9	116.2	-6.4	-0.6
Metal fabricated products	4.11	121.7	123.2	123.0	1.1	-0.2
Machinery and equipment	4.08	112.4	114.7	114.7	2.0	0.0
Autos, trucks, other transportation equipment	18.76	126.7	135.1	134.3	6.0	-0.6
Electrical and communications products	6.03	106.3	107.8	107.5	1.1	-0.3
Non-metallic mineral products	2.12	112.0	113.0	113.2	1.1	0.2
Petroleum and coal products <sup>5</sup>	6.01	106.6	88.8	87.5	-17.9	-1.5
Chemicals and chemical products	7.60	116.3	113.6	113.3	-2.6	-0.3
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.45	115.5	118.1	118.0	2.2	-0.1
Miscellaneous non-manufactured products	0.31	124.5	109.9	112.2	-9.9	2.1

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>1</sup> Intermediate goods are used principally to produce other goods.

<sup>2</sup> First-stage intermediate goods are items used most frequently to produce other intermediate goods.

<sup>3</sup> Second-stage intermediate goods are items most commonly used to produce final goods.

<sup>4</sup> Finished goods are most commonly used for immediate consumption or for capital investment.

<sup>5</sup> This index is estimated for the current month.

## Raw Materials Price Index

January 1999 (preliminary)

In January, raw material prices increased 3.8% compared with December. Prices moved ahead for the first time in four months, mainly on the strength of crude oil and hogs. These upward price changes were marginally dampened by lower vegetable product prices. The Raw Materials Price Index stood at 103.5 (1992=100) in January, up from December's revised figure of 99.7.

If mineral fuels (90% of which is crude oil), were excluded, raw material prices for January would have increased 2.0% from December. This represents the largest month-to-month increase since May 1996. Higher hog prices contributed greatly to this change.

Despite January's gains, raw material prices remained 9.9% lower than in January 1998. Similarly, if mineral fuel prices were excluded from the total, the 12-month change would have been 5.5%.

### Crude oil prices rebound

As a group, mineral fuel prices rose 9.8% in January. This growth was primarily due to crude oil prices, which rebounded 10.2%. The increase was fuelled by supply concerns over a report indicating that U.S. inventories had their biggest drop in 18 years. There were further supply concerns when a Nigerian terminal was shut down due to labour disruptions. Nonetheless, prices remained 24.5% below January 1998 levels, as oversupply problems plagued the industry for most of 1998. Natural gas and coal prices both posted gains for the month.

### Hog prices soar

Animals and animal product prices increased 6.9% over December. The gain was primarily due to hog prices, which soared 95.3% in January. Even though this notable increase recouped some losses, January prices remained 51.3% below their recent peak in July 1997. At the producer level, prices of fresh or frozen pork for the domestic market increased 14.6% in January.

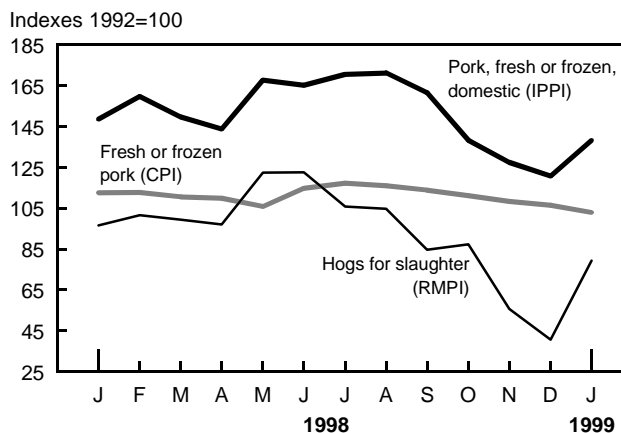
Recently, however, lower hog prices have trickled down to the retail level. As noted by the Consumer Price Index, fresh or frozen pork prices have declined 5.2% over the past two months. Also, packers have become more efficient and can now accommodate the greater number of hogs. According to market sources, however, prices have not yet stabilized. Cattle and calves prices increased 3.2% in January while chicken prices remained relatively stable (+0.2%).

#### 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.

On a 12-month basis, animals and animal product prices slipped 1.6%, with hogs registering a 17.9% decline that was partly offset by increases in cattle (+3.1%) and fish (+5.8%).

### Hog prices rebound



### Non-ferrous metal prices stable

Non-ferrous metal prices remained unchanged in January. Higher prices for nickel concentrates (+13.2%), radioactive concentrates (+11.4%) and silver were offset by lower prices for zinc, gold and aluminum materials. Nickel prices firmed up partly on news of a protracted Australian smelter shutdown and cutbacks of ferro-nickel production in Greece. Zinc, gold and aluminum materials were subject to continued weakness in Asian demand. On a 12-month basis, non-ferrous metal prices were down 7.1%, with nickel (-18.4%), zinc (-11.4%) and aluminum materials (-13.5%) posting the biggest declines.

### Vegetable product prices continue downward trend

After peaking in May 1997, vegetable product prices continued their downward trend by falling 1.6% in January. Lower prices for canola, soybeans and coffee were partly offset by higher prices for tobacco

and sugar. The downward pressure on oilseed prices stemmed from the strong crop outlook in South America. Lower soybean prices also reflected Brazil's currency devaluation, which motivated growers to sell commodities immediately to obtain U.S. dollars. As a result, soybean prices fell 4.8% and canola, which is influenced by soybean prices, fell 6.4%.

The weakness of Brazil's currency had a similar impact on coffee prices, which declined 6.9% in January. Brazil's currency was devalued 20.2% between mid-December and mid-January and continued to decline in February. Despite Brazil being a top sugar producer, unrefined sugar prices were still up 2.9% in January. Buyers were lured by long-time low market prices, raising concerns about diminishing supply.

Over the year, vegetable product prices were down 12.2%. Coffee, corn, soybeans and sugar were the major contributors to this decline.

### Wood prices edge down

Wood prices edged down in January (-0.2%), the result of a 0.7% decrease in log prices. The Canadian

lumber industry has suffered because of waning Asian demand, as has the United States lumber industry. In lieu of exporting to Asia, the United States has diverted supplies to its burgeoning domestic building industry, which put downward pressure on prices in both Canada and the United States. Pulpwood prices gained ground (+1.8%) in January. Overall, wood prices were down 4.1% over the year, with declines for pulpwood (-1.7%) and log prices (-4.8%).

### Available on CANSIM: matrix 1879.

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

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

### Raw materials price indexes (1992 = 100)

	Relative importance	Jan. 1998	Dec. 1998 <sup>r</sup>	Jan. 1999 <sup>p</sup>	Jan. 1998 to Jan. 1999	Dec. 1998 to Jan. 1999
					% change	
<b>Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI)</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>114.9</b>	<b>99.7</b>	<b>103.5</b>	<b>-9.9</b>	<b>3.8</b>
Mineral fuels	31.47	100.5	71.7	78.7	-21.7	9.8
Vegetable products	9.41	142.3	127.0	125.0	-12.2	-1.6
Animals and animal products	24.41	108.1	99.5	106.4	-1.6	6.9
Wood	14.88	135.8	130.5	130.3	-4.1	-0.2
Ferrous materials	3.17	138.3	119.1	120.4	-12.9	1.1
Non-ferrous metals	13.81	112.8	104.8	104.8	-7.1	0.0
Non-metallic minerals	2.85	116.7	116.0	116.1	-0.5	0.1
<b>RMPI excluding mineral fuels</b>	<b>68.53</b>	<b>121.5</b>	<b>112.6</b>	<b>114.8</b>	<b>-5.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

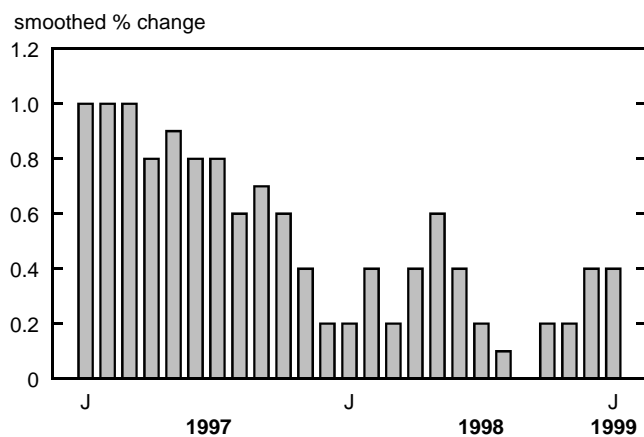
<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

## Composite Index

January 1999

The leading index rose 0.4% in January, matching its upward revised gain in December. The advances in the last two months were the largest since June, as the economy showed few signs of slowing down. Manufacturing and business services remained the main sources of growth, as six of the ten components rose compared with five in December.

Composite Index



New orders continued to strengthen (+1.1%) in line with export demand, having snapped back from

their lull in mid-1998. The ratio of shipments to stocks remained stable, with growth in shipments matched by inventories, suggesting that firms are banking on further increases in demand. These gains in new orders, shipments and inventories resulted in increased demand for labour; the average workweek rose for a fourth straight month while manufacturers dominated the expansion of employment in January.

Consumer spending remained choppy at the turn of the year, continuing the uneven performance posted in the second half of 1998. Personal services continued to buttress overall growth in service jobs, which in January had its fastest growth of the current expansion. Conversely, demand for durable goods and housing continued to falter as consumer confidence has recovered only part of its drop last summer.

There were modest gains on the stock market. The TSE remained below its level of a year earlier, with natural resource stock continuing to slide. This contrasts with the complete recovery in the U.S. stock market, which partly explains the upturn in their leading indicator.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 191.**

The February issue of *Canadian economic observer* (11-010-XPB, \$23/\$227) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Economic Analysis Group. □



## Composite Index

	Aug. 1998	Sept. 1998	Oct. 1998	Nov. 1998	Dec. 1998	Jan. 1999	Last month of data available
							% change
<b>Composite leading indicator (1981=100)</b>	<b>207.4</b>	<b>207.5</b>	<b>207.9</b>	<b>208.4</b>	<b>209.2</b>	<b>210.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Housing index (1981=100) <sup>1</sup>	126.5	126.3	126.6	126.0	125.3	124.5	-0.6
Business and personal services employment ('000)	2,270	2,278	2,288	2,301	2,315	2,335	0.9
TSE 300 stock price index (1975=1,000)	7,138	6,788	6,505	6,318	6,231	6,247	0.3
Money supply, M1 (\$ millions, 1981) <sup>2</sup>	40,945	41,469	41,759	41,669	41,612	41,383	-0.6
U.S. composite leading indicator (1967=100) <sup>3</sup>	225.2	225.4	225.6	225.7	225.9	226.3	0.2
<b>Manufacturing</b>							
Average workweek (hours)	38.3	38.3	38.4	38.6	38.9	39.0	0.3
New orders, durables (\$ millions, 1981) <sup>4</sup>	15,462	15,419	15,499	15,611	15,816	15,994	1.1
Shipments/inventories of finished goods <sup>4</sup>	1.63	1.61	1.60	1.59	1.59	1.59	0.00 <sup>5</sup>
<b>Retail trade</b>							
Furniture and appliance sales (\$ millions, 1981) <sup>4</sup>	1,369.1	1,376.6	1,382.8	1,386.9	1,390.9	1,396.1	0.4
Other durable goods sales (\$ millions, 1981) <sup>4</sup>	4,565.8	4,573.5	4,584.6	4,603.3	4,594.5	4,587.9	-0.1
Unsmoothed composite	206.1	207.5	210.0	209.6	212.6	212.5	0.0

<sup>1</sup> Composite index of housing starts (units) and house sales (multiple listing service).

<sup>2</sup> Deflated by the Consumer Price Index for all items.

<sup>3</sup> The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the immediately preceding month.

<sup>4</sup> The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for two preceding months.

<sup>5</sup> Difference from previous month.



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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Employment, earnings and hours

December 1998 (preliminary)

In December, employees' average weekly earnings increased slightly by \$0.81 to \$608.04. Earnings increased 1.2% in 1998, exceeding the 1.0% gain recorded by the Consumer Price Index between December 1997 and December 1998.

Hourly rated employees worked an average of 31.3 hours (including overtime hours) in December, down slightly from November. Average hours have changed very little in the past year, rising only 0.2 hours since December 1997. Average overtime hours registered in December remained unchanged from November.

Employment growth was strong in December as employers added 48,000 people to their payrolls. Most of the employment growth in 1998 was attributable to the manufacturing, construction and business services sectors. Employment in education decreased for the second year in a row.

**Note:** Beginning with the May 1998 release, the Labour Division has completed the third phase of its redesign of 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 impacts 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 impacts and will help users interpret this data. To minimize the effect of impacts, data from the Survey on Employment on Employment, Payrolls and Hours, particularly employment data, be used over 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 March through standard tables in the monthly publication *Employment, earnings and hours* (72-002-XPB, \$32/\$320) and the historical publication *Annual estimates of employment, earnings and hours 1985-1997* (diskette: 72F0002XDB, \$120) and by custom tabulations.

For more 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)	Dec. 1997	Nov. 1998 <sup>r</sup>	Dec. 1998 <sup>p</sup>	Nov. to Dec. 1998	Dec. 1997 to Dec. 1998
seasonally adjusted					
	\$			% change	
<b>Industrial aggregate</b>	<b>601.06</b>	<b>607.23</b>	<b>608.04</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>1.2</b>
Logging and forestry	787.28	759.20	778.56	2.6	-1.1
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	1085.37	1106.25	1105.19	-0.1	1.8
Manufacturing	749.35	755.29	756.87	0.2	1.0
Construction	723.33	696.34	709.60	1.9	-1.9
Transportation and storage	724.39	741.38	740.39	-0.1	2.2
Communication and other utilities	791.72	797.40	790.88	-0.8	-0.1
Wholesale trade	647.77	665.36	666.26	0.1	2.9
Retail trade	355.44	370.93	369.59	-0.4	4.0
Finance and insurance	785.52	805.62	804.02	-0.2	2.4
Real estate operators and insurance agencies	633.94	644.44	644.56	0.0	1.7
Business services	674.38	692.14	697.64	0.8	3.4
Education-related services	672.74	659.18	656.21	-0.5	-2.5
Health and social services	515.87	521.06	518.76	-0.4	0.6
Accommodation, food and beverage services	232.01	233.62	236.64	1.3	2.0
Public administration	735.25	727.83	722.47	-0.7	-1.7
Miscellaneous services	404.38	405.17	403.79	-0.3	-0.1
<b>Provinces and territories</b>					
Newfoundland	520.91	538.63	544.49	1.1	4.5
Prince Edward Island	474.29	482.50	492.69	2.1	3.9
Nova Scotia	500.19	512.94	518.17	1.0	3.6
New Brunswick	517.23	523.04	529.32	1.2	2.3
Quebec	568.17	571.24	570.05	-0.2	0.3
Ontario	643.99	645.55	648.57	0.5	0.7
Manitoba	526.80	548.28	549.74	0.3	4.4
Saskatchewan	528.93	544.71	543.21	-0.3	2.7
Alberta	605.60	617.84	619.39	0.3	2.3
British Columbia	613.61	620.49	619.77	-0.1	1.0
Yukon	704.46	661.11	673.36	1.9	-4.4
Northwest Territories	741.23	726.89	720.95	-0.8	-2.7

<sup>r</sup> Revised estimates.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary estimates.

## Number of employees

Industry group (1980 Standard Industrial Classification)	Oct. 1998	Nov. 1998 <sup>r</sup>	Dec. 1998 <sup>p</sup>	Oct. to Nov. 1998	Nov. to Dec. 1998
seasonally adjusted					
	thousands			% change	
<b>Industrial aggregate</b>	<b>11,666</b>	<b>11,687</b>	<b>11,735</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.4</b>
Logging and forestry	64	64	64	0.0	0.0
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	138	136	137	-1.4	0.7
Manufacturing	1,881	1,881	1,914	0.0	1.8
Construction	500	506	515	1.2	1.8
Transportation and storage	488	489	497	0.2	1.6
Communication and other utilities	388	391	390	0.8	-0.3
Wholesale trade	734	731	743	-0.4	1.6
Retail trade	1,426	1,418	1,413	-0.6	-0.4
Finance and insurance	520	521	518	0.2	-0.6
Real estate operators and insurances agencies	199	198	198	-0.5	0.0
Business services	815	825	835	1.2	1.2
Education-related services	922	924	925	0.2	0.1
Health and social services	1,218	1,216	1,218	-0.2	0.2
Accommodation, food and beverage services	851	851	852	0.0	0.1
Public administration	670	672	674	0.3	0.3
Miscellaneous services	695	697	698	0.3	0.1
<b>Provinces and territories</b>					
Newfoundland	152	153	155	0.5	1.3
Prince Edward Island	48	48	49	-0.8	2.1
Nova Scotia	324	322	325	-0.5	0.9
New Brunswick	258	261	264	1.2	1.1
Quebec	2,773	2,781	2,798	0.3	0.6
Ontario	4,569	4,594	4,608	0.5	0.3
Manitoba	443	445	448	0.4	0.7
Saskatchewan	350	351	353	0.4	0.6
Alberta	1,213	1,212	1,218	-0.1	0.5
British Columbia	1,480	1,475	1,478	-0.3	0.2
Yukon	16	16	16	0.6	0.0
Northwest Territories	26	26	26	1.6	0.0

<sup>r</sup> Revised estimates.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary estimates.

## Steel primary forms

Week ending February 20, 1999 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending February 20, 1999, totalled 297 381 tonnes, down 5.7% from the week-earlier 315 482 tonnes and down 4.0% from the year-earlier 309 695 tonnes. The cumulative total at the end of the week was 2 096 793 tonnes, a 5.7% decrease compared with 2 223 617 tonnes for the same period in 1998.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-7093; [milsomg@statcan.ca](mailto:milsomg@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## Insights on...

Winter 1999

*Insights on...* is a newsletter on trends in business and trade. It documents developments in industry and shows how businesses are responding to new challenges and opportunities. This issue also includes information on new products and services about businesses and industry available from Statistics Canada.

The Winter 1999 issue includes two articles. The first article, "Canada's East Coast container ports: Do they compete with or complement one another in the race for North American container traffic?", makes use of the Marine International Origin/Destination database

to examine developments in cargo and container traffic for Canada's East Coast ports. The second article, "Overview of packaging products used by Canadian manufacturers", examines the "reuse, reduce and recycle" phenomenon in Canada. This article is based on the Annual Survey of Manufacturers.

The Winter 1999 issue of *Insights on...* (61F0019XPE, vol. 3, no. 1, \$40/\$100; or 61F0019XIE (Internet version), free) 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 Jenny Grenier (613-951-1020; [grenjen@statcan.ca](mailto:grenjen@statcan.ca)), Small Business and Special Surveys Division. ■

## **Intellectual property in the higher education sector** 1998

The working paper *Survey of Intellectual Property Commercialization in the Higher Education Sector, 1998* (88F0006XIB, no. 01, free) is now available on the Internet at [www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca). See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Michael Bordt (613-951-8585; fax: 613-951-9920; [mbordt@statcan.ca](mailto:mbordt@statcan.ca)), Science and Technology Redesign Project. ■

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**Insights on...**  
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**Survey of Intellectual Property Commercialization in the Higher Education Sector**, no. 1, 1998  
**Catalogue number 88F0006XIB**  
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