



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, March 15, 1999

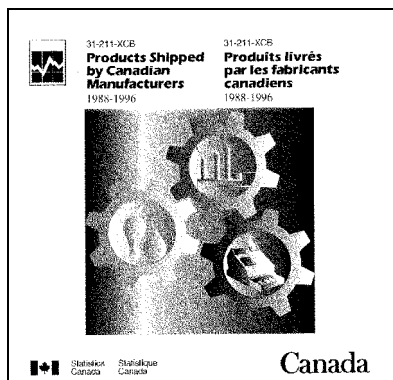
For release at 8:30 a.m.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **New motor vehicle sales, January 1999** 3  
Advancing truck sales pushed up the number of new motor vehicles sold in January by 3.6%.  
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### Products shipped by Canadian manufacturers — CD-ROM 1988-1996

*Products shipped by Canadian manufacturers, 1988-1996* is a CD-ROM with a database of goods produced by Canadian manufacturers. This new analytical tool will help you research the value and quantity of goods manufactured in Canada and in each province. It also provides the origins of manufactured goods by SIC (Standard industrial classification).

The CD-ROM is user-friendly; using a commodity code or word search, you can obtain in seconds the value and quantity of a product shipped. You can also follow the trend of goods manufactured or simply calculate the market share in Canada or a province.

In addition, this product contains a system which allows you to trace any historical changes in commodity codes, and includes the Standard classification of goods and the Standard industrial classification.

The CD-ROM on *Products shipped by Canadian manufacturers, 1988-1996* (31-211-XCB, \$430 for single use) is now available. For more information, contact Jean-Marie Houle (613-951-9497; fax: 613-951-3522; [manufact@statcan.ca](mailto:manufact@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction, and Energy Division.



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## OTHER RELEASES

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## MAJOR RELEASES

### New motor vehicle sales

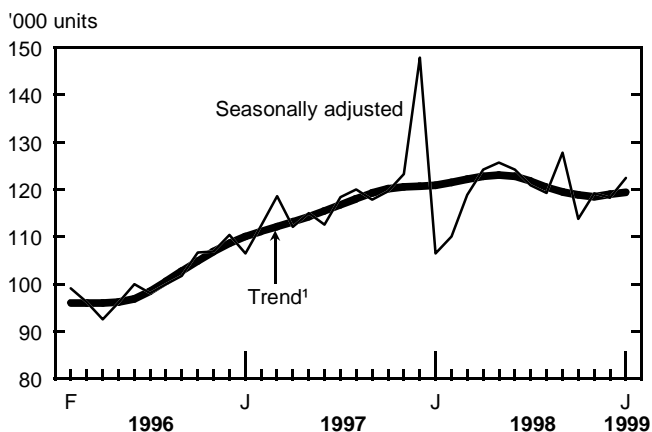
January 1999

Advancing truck sales pushed up the number of new motor vehicles sold in January by 3.6% to 122,527. This followed a 0.8% sales decline in December 1998.

Sales in January were 15.0% higher than in January 1998 because of exceptionally weak sales that month. Industry sources suggested that dealers might have drawn some business into December 1997 by offering customers strong incentives on the purchase of new motor vehicles. This shift in sales, coupled with the January ice storm, contributed to a substantial decline in new vehicle sales in January 1998 (all figures are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise indicated).

Sales of new motor vehicles posted general declines from the spring of 1998 to the end of the year. Prior to the spring of 1998, sales had generally been rising from the spring of 1996.

Motor vehicle sales rebounded in January



<sup>1</sup> The short-term trend represents a moving average of the data.

### Truck sales advance for the first time since September

Sales of new trucks rose 8.9% in January to 58,842 units. This was the first monthly advance since September and the largest advance since a 10.4% increase in March 1998. Truck sales have generally

#### Note to readers

Passenger cars include those used for personal and commercial purposes (such as taxis or rental cars). Trucks include minivans, sport utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans, coaches and buses.

Owing to the merger of Daimler-Benz and Chrysler, sales for the Big Three manufacturers (General Motors, Ford and Chrysler) are discontinued.

For reasons of confidentiality, the Yukon and Northwest Territories are included with British Columbia.

been declining since early 1998 after posting gains from the summer of 1995.

Car sales declined 0.9% in January, the second straight monthly decline. Sales fell for both North American (-1.0%) and overseas-built cars (-0.3%). Since the spring of 1996, car sales have generally been rising but at an increasingly slower rate.

### January sales advance in most provinces

All but the three most western provinces posted year-over-year increases in new motor vehicle sales in January (unadjusted for seasonally). Quebec posted the strongest year-over-year increase (+42.3%).

In January, sales of new motor vehicles fell in Saskatchewan (-7.1%), Alberta (-6.6%) and British Columbia (-2.5%) compared with the levels in January 1998. While each of these provinces experienced declining sales in the number of trucks sold, only dealers in British Columbia saw a decline in new car sales. Weakness in commodity prices in these three provinces may be affecting consumer confidence, which in turn may be contributing to the lacklustre sales of new motor vehicles.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 64.

The January 1999 issue of *New motor vehicle sales* (63-007-XIB, \$13/\$124) will be available at a later date. See *How to order to publications*.

For data or general information, contact the Client Services Unit (613-951-3549; 1 877 421-3067; [retailinfo@statcan.ca](mailto:retailinfo@statcan.ca)), Retail Trade Section, Distributive Trades Division. For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Greg Peterson (613-951-3592; [petegre@statcan.ca](mailto:petegre@statcan.ca)). □

## New motor vehicle sales

	Jan. 1998	Dec. 1998 <sup>r</sup>	Jan. 1999 <sup>p</sup>	Jan. 1998 to Jan. 1999	Dec. 1998 to Jan. 1999
seasonally adjusted					
				% change	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>	<b>106,549</b>	<b>118,264</b>	<b>122,527</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>3.6</b>
Passenger cars	51,710	64,238	63,685	23.2	-0.9
North American <sup>1</sup>	42,185	50,735	50,223	19.1	-1.0
Overseas	9,525	13,503	13,462	41.3	-0.3
Trucks, vans and buses	54,839	54,026	58,842	7.3	8.9
Market share					
	Jan. 1998	Jan. 1999 <sup>p</sup>	Jan. 1998 to Jan. 1999	Jan. 1998	Jan. 1999
unadjusted					
			% change	%	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>	<b>77,409</b>	<b>86,790</b>	<b>12.1</b>		
Passenger cars	35,936	42,297	17.7		
North American <sup>1</sup>	30,508	35,052	14.9	84.9	82.9
Overseas	5,428	7,245	33.5	15.1	17.1
Trucks, vans and buses	41,473	44,493	7.3		
North American <sup>1</sup>	38,667	40,983	6.0	93.2	92.1
Overseas	2,806	3,510	25.1	6.8	7.9

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>1</sup> Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.

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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Railway carloadings

Seven-day period ending February 28, 1999

Carloadings of freight (excluding intermodal traffic) during the seven-day period ending February 28, 1999 decreased 5.4% to 4.6 million tonnes from the same period last year. The number of cars loaded decreased 3.4%.

Intermodal traffic (piggyback) tonnage totalled 376 000 tonnes, a 13.0% increase from the same period of 1998. The year-to-date figures show a 12.9% increase.

Total traffic (carloadings of freight and intermodal traffic) decreased 4.2% during the period. This brought the year-to-date total to 38.6 million tonnes, a 6.1% decrease from the previous year.

All year-to-date figures have been revised.

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

### Total population and population by age and sex

July 1, 1991 to July 1, 1998

Preliminary postcensal estimates of total population and population by age and sex for census divisions and census metropolitan areas are now available for July 1 of the following years: 1998, 1997 (updated postcensal estimates), 1996 (final postcensal estimates) as well as 1995, 1994, 1993, 1992 and 1991 (final intercensal estimates).

These estimates take into account the 1996 Census results, adjusted for net census undercoverage.

**Note:** CANSIM matrices 6151-6168, 6169-6186, 6190-6202 and 6230-6242, containing data based on 1991 Census counts, have been terminated and replaced by the new matrices listed below based on 1996 Census counts.

#### Available on CANSIM: matrices 9235-9296.

These estimates will be published in *Annual demographic statistics, 1998* (91-213-XPB, \$125; Internet version: 91-213-XIB, \$56), available at a later date. See *How to order publications*.

To obtain these data, contact Lise Champagne (613-951-2320; fax: 613-951-2307; [chamlis@statcan.ca](mailto:chamlis@statcan.ca)), Demography Division or the nearest Regional Reference Center. To enquire about the concepts, methods, or data quality of this release, call Mario Bédard (613-951-2290; fax: 613-951-2307; [bedardm@statcan.ca](mailto:bedardm@statcan.ca)), Demography Division. ■

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**Primary iron and steel**, January 1999  
**Catalogue number 41-001-XIB**  
(Canada: \$5/\$47; outside Canada: US\$5/US\$47).

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

**Employment, earnings and hours**, December 1998  
**Catalogue number 72-002-XPB**  
(Canada: \$32/\$320; outside Canada: US\$32/US\$320).

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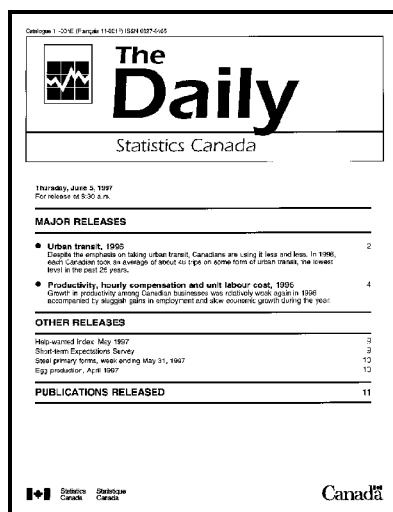
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### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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