



The Daily

Statistics Canada

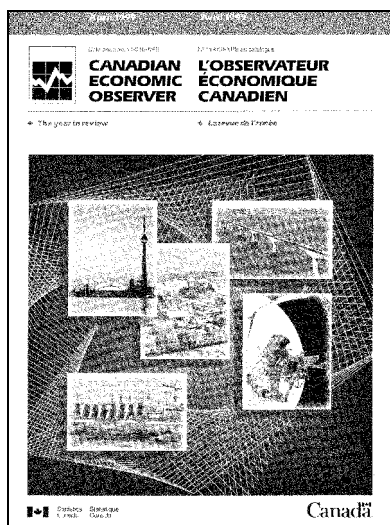
Thursday, April 22, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Retail trade, February 1999** 3
 In February, consumers reduced their spending in stores after a strong spree in January. Retail sales were down 0.4% in February following a 2.0% increase in January.
- **Canada's international transactions in securities, February 1999** 7
 In February, Canadian investors continued their foray into foreign markets, but with smaller purchases of foreign securities. At the same time, foreign investment in Canadian securities showed little change in February as moderate foreign purchases of Canadian money market paper were offset by sales of Canadian bonds.

(continued on following page)



Canadian economic observer

April 1999

The April issue of Statistics Canada's flagship publication for economic statistics, *Canadian economic observer*, analyses the current economic conditions, summarizes the major economic events that occurred in March and presents a feature article on economic developments last year. A separate statistical summary contains a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and the major industrial nations.

The April 1999 issue of *Canadian economic observer* (11-010-XPB, \$23/\$227) is now available. See *How to order publications*. For more information, contact Cyndi Bloskie (613-951-3634; ceo@statcan.ca), Current Economic Analysis Group.



OTHER RELEASES

Female inmates, Aboriginal inmates and inmates serving life sentences, October 1996	9
Steel primary forms, week ending April 17, 1999	9
Construction-type plywood, February 1999	9
Pulpwood and wood residue statistics, February 1999	10
Airport activity statistics, first quarter 1998	10
Scientific and technical services, 1996	10
School board expenditures and revenues, 1996	10

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED	12
------------------------------	-----------

MAJOR RELEASES

Retail trade

February 1999

In February, consumers reduced their spending in stores after a strong spree in January. Retail sales were down 0.4% in February following a 2.0% increase in January. Total spending in retail stores amounted to \$21.0 billion in February, with retail sales 3.8% higher than in February 1998.

Overall, retail sales have picked up since the fall of 1998, with sales rising 2.4% since October. Prior to the period of stagnation in the spring and summer of 1998, retail sales had generally been increasing since the beginning of 1996.

General merchandise stores (-2.6%) and stores classified as "other retail" (-1.7%) posted the largest sales declines in February. Sales advanced 0.6% in both clothing and drug stores. Food stores (-0.3%), furniture stores (-0.1%) and stores in the automotive sector (+0.2%) all posted marginal changes in sales from the previous month.

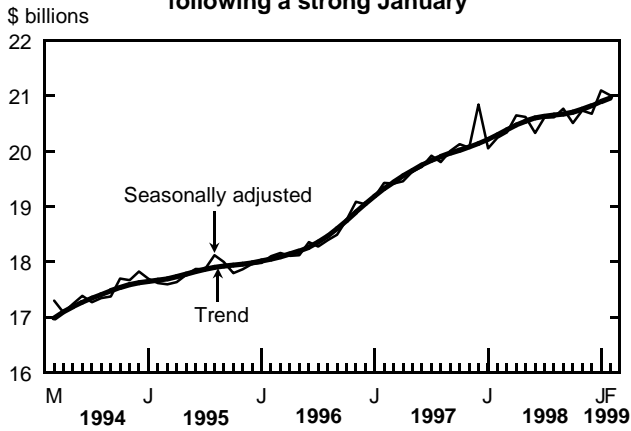
Note to readers

Retail sales estimates are revised every year with the February release. The unadjusted monthly estimates in current and constant dollars for 1996, 1997, 1998 and January 1999 have been revised. Seasonal factors and seasonally adjusted estimates in current and constant dollars have also been revised for the period from January 1996 to January 1999. These revisions are now available on CANSIM or upon request from the Distributive Trades Division. The revised 1998 estimates will also appear in the February 1999 issue of Retail trade (63-005-XPB).

essentially flat for most of 1998, following more than two years of increasing sales.

Declining sales in stores classified as "other retail" followed a strong month in January. February's decline was concentrated in stores of "other durable" goods (-3.0%) and "other semi-durable" goods (-2.9%). These two types of stores encompass a wide variety of merchants (e.g. sporting goods, jewellery, music, hardware and book stores). Diminishing sales in the "other retail" sector came mostly from sporting goods, music and book stores. Overall, sales in "other retail" stores have generally been increasing during the last two years.

Retail sales were down in February following a strong January



Second consecutive monthly gain for clothing stores and drug stores

Consumers increased spending in February for a second consecutive month in clothing stores and drug stores. The 0.6% rise in sales, for both clothing stores and drug stores, followed increases of 1.7% and 3.0% respectively in January. Despite rising sales in the last two months, retail sales in clothing stores have remained flat since the spring of 1998 after more than two years of general increases. Before January, sales in drug stores had generally been declining since the spring of 1998 after a year of strong advances.

Lower sales in general merchandise stores

In February, consumers reduced spending in general merchandise stores after two months of strong increases in January 1999 (+5.2%) and December 1998 (+1.2%). Sales were down in both department stores (-2.8%) and other general merchandise stores (-2.3%). Before December, sales in general merchandise stores had remained

Auto sales back in high gear

Rising sales in February by motor and recreational vehicle dealers (+1.3%) pushed up total sales in the auto sector (+0.2%) for a fourth consecutive month. These gains were mostly due to advances by motor and recreational vehicle dealers, whose sales have risen 6.8% since October 1998. The auto sector showed increasing sales in the last few months after a period of stagnation during most of 1998. Prior to 1998, sales

in the auto sector rose rapidly from mid-1996 to early 1997 and advanced very slowly for the rest of 1997.

Food store sales declined 0.3% in February. While sales retreated (-0.4%) in supermarkets and grocery stores, sales by other food stores increased 1.0%. Sales by food stores have remained flat since the spring of 1998 after two years of general increases.

Sales in furniture stores remained essentially unchanged in February (-0.1%) after four consecutive monthly gains. Retailers in the furniture sector have enjoyed increasing sales since the spring of 1996.

Weak sales across provinces

All provinces posted diminishing retail sales in February with the exception of a marginal 0.2% increase in New Brunswick and unchanged sales in Ontario. Retailers in Saskatchewan (-2.2%), Prince Edward Island (-1.9%) and British Columbia (-1.5%) had the largest decreases in sales. February's decline in British Columbia was spread across all sectors. Lower sales in the auto sector were most responsible for the weaker retail sales in Saskatchewan and Prince Edward Island.

Retail sales in Atlantic Canada have picked up in the last few months following a pause during most of 1998. Before 1998, retailers in Atlantic Canada had enjoyed increasing sales since the spring of 1995. Retailers in Quebec have also registered increasing sales since the spring of 1995 but with a pause in the summer of 1997.

While sales weakened in most provinces during 1998, retailers in Ontario kept reporting increases. Retail sales in Ontario have generally been increasing

since mid-1996. Sales in the Prairie provinces had generally been flat since the end of 1997 after a period of increasing sales which started at the beginning of 1996. February's decline in retail sales in British Columbia followed three consecutive monthly gains. Prior to these advances, the province's retailers had generally been posting diminishing sales since the fall of 1997.

Related indicators

Employment edged down 0.2% in March following a marginal increase in February. The decline in employment came entirely from losses in part-time jobs. March's decline followed eight consecutive monthly increases. Sources in the automotive industry indicated a rise in the number of new motor vehicles sold in March. The number of housing starts increased for a second consecutive month in March (+2.7%).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2299, 2398-2417 and 2420.

The February 1999 issue of *Retail trade* (63-005-XPB, \$21/\$206) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, contact the Client Services Unit (613-951-3549; 1-877-421-3067; retailinfo@statcan.ca). For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Paul Gratton (613-951-3541; gratpau@statcan.ca), Retail Trade Section, Distributive Trades Division. □

Retail sales

	Feb. 1998	Nov. 1998 ^r	Dec. 1998 ^r	Jan. 1999 ^r	Feb. 1999 ^p	Jan. to Feb. 1999	Feb. to Feb. 1999
	seasonally adjusted						
	\$ millions					% change	
Food	4,744	4,846	4,815	4,851	4,837	-0.3	2.0
Supermarkets and grocery stores	4,383	4,489	4,456	4,492	4,475	-0.4	2.1
All other food stores	361	357	359	359	362	1.0	0.3
Drug and patent medicine stores	1,068	1,080	1,070	1,102	1,109	0.6	3.8
Clothing	1,167	1,182	1,148	1,168	1,175	0.6	0.7
Shoe stores	145	134	139	139	135	-2.4	-6.6
Men's clothing stores	134	133	129	126	129	2.0	-3.7
Women's clothing stores	372	373	362	375	374	-0.2	0.5
Other clothing stores	516	542	518	528	537	1.6	4.0
Furniture	1,012	1,086	1,089	1,096	1,095	-0.1	8.2
Household furniture and appliance stores	813	867	882	891	890	-0.1	9.5
Household furnishings stores	199	219	207	205	205	0.0	2.9
Automotive	7,717	7,921	7,949	8,060	8,073	0.2	4.6
Motor and recreational vehicle dealers	5,221	5,430	5,454	5,532	5,606	1.3	7.4
Gasoline service stations	1,333	1,273	1,271	1,278	1,271	-0.5	-4.7
Automotive parts, accessories and services	1,163	1,218	1,224	1,250	1,197	-4.2	2.9
General merchandise stores	2,328	2,341	2,369	2,491	2,427	-2.6	4.3
Retail stores not elsewhere classified	2,206	2,279	2,240	2,331	2,292	-1.7	3.9
Other semi-durable goods stores	681	712	687	706	685	-2.9	0.6
Other durable goods stores	572	571	567	616	598	-3.0	4.6
All other retail stores not elsewhere classified	953	996	986	1,009	1,009	0.0	5.8
Total, retail sales	20,243	20,735	20,680	21,099	21,008	-0.4	3.8
Total excluding motor and recreational vehicle dealers	15,022	15,305	15,226	15,567	15,402	-1.1	2.5
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland	321	334	322	333	332	-0.2	3.5
Prince Edward Island	87	86	86	89	87	-1.9	0.3
Nova Scotia	637	646	650	655	653	-0.3	2.5
New Brunswick	478	496	493	508	509	0.2	6.5
Quebec	4,882	4,834	4,816	4,961	4,951	-0.2	1.4
Ontario	7,404	7,836	7,768	7,945	7,944	0.0	7.3
Manitoba	705	735	737	751	747	-0.5	6.0
Saskatchewan	624	627	629	635	621	-2.2	-0.5
Alberta	2,296	2,347	2,357	2,375	2,359	-0.7	2.7
British Columbia	2,743	2,725	2,752	2,777	2,735	-1.5	-0.3
Yukon	25	26	26	26	28	6.4	10.2
Northwest Territories	43	43	44	45	44	-3.8	2.1

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

Retail sales

	Feb. 1998	Jan. 1999 ^r	Feb. 1999 ^p	Feb. 1998 to Feb. 1999
	unadjusted			
	\$ millions			% change
Food	4,207	4,801	4,279	1.7
Supermarkets and grocery stores	3,891	4,479	3,962	1.8
All other food stores	317	322	317	0.3
Drug and patent medicine stores	976	1,063	1,016	4.0
Clothing	756	869	765	1.2
Shoe stores	86	108	81	-6.0
Men's clothing stores	83	99	80	-3.7
Women's clothing stores	249	274	252	1.2
Other clothing stores	338	387	353	4.3
Furniture	786	902	850	8.2
Household furniture and appliance stores	631	744	691	9.4
Household furnishings stores	155	158	160	3.2
Automotive	6,259	6,419	6,533	4.4
Motor and recreational vehicle dealers	4,226	4,193	4,533	7.3
Gasoline service stations	1,158	1,184	1,102	-4.9
Automotive parts, accessories and services	875	1,043	898	2.7
General merchandise stores	1,651	1,816	1,734	5.0
Retail stores not elsewhere classified	1,607	1,791	1,677	4.3
Other semi-durable goods stores	479	513	482	0.7
Other durable goods stores	399	478	421	5.5
All other retail stores not elsewhere classified	730	800	775	6.1
Total, retail sales	16,242	17,661	16,854	3.8
Total excluding motor and recreational vehicle dealers	12,016	13,468	12,321	2.5
Provinces and territories				
Newfoundland	246	263	255	3.5
Prince Edward Island	64	69	65	0.2
Nova Scotia	504	538	517	2.6
New Brunswick	372	403	397	6.5
Quebec	3,841	4,072	3,897	1.5
Ontario	5,965	6,646	6,402	7.3
Manitoba	567	635	600	5.8
Saskatchewan	502	551	499	-0.6
Alberta	1,842	2,015	1,894	2.8
British Columbia	2,283	2,411	2,271	-0.5
Yukon	19	20	21	10.1
Northwest Territories	36	39	37	1.9

^p Preliminary figures.

^r Revised figures.



Canada's international transactions in securities

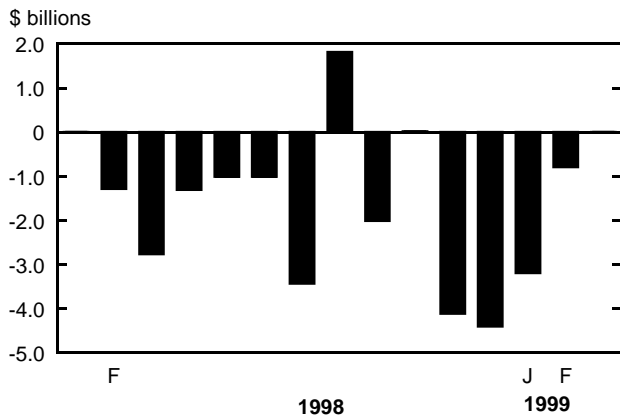
February 1999

In February, Canadian investors continued their foray into foreign markets, but with smaller purchases of foreign securities. At the same time, foreign investment in Canadian securities showed little change in February as moderate foreign purchases of Canadian money market paper were offset by sales of Canadian bonds.

Canadian purchases of foreign stocks continue

In February, Canadian purchases of foreign stocks continued, as resident investors added a further \$1.6 billion to the \$5.9 billion acquired in the previous three months. Two-thirds of February's buying was directed to U.S. stocks, a return to the general 1998 pattern, after three months when just over half of the investment went to overseas stocks. U.S. stocks (Standard and Poor's 500 index) closed February at 3.2% lower than January, their first decline after five months of significant gains.

Canadian investment in foreign securities*



* Includes bonds and stocks.

After buying over \$8 billion of mainly U.S. treasury bonds since September 1998, Canadian residents sold a small \$0.8 billion in February.

Foreign investors buy Canadian money market paper, but sell bonds and stock

After selling a substantial \$4.4 billion of Canadian money market paper in January, foreign investors

Related market information

Interest rates

In February, the differential on short-term government instruments was unchanged at about 30 basis points, continuing to favour investment in Canada. The differential on long-term government instruments, which has favoured investment in Canada since August 1998, shifted in February to favour the United States by a small margin.

Stock prices

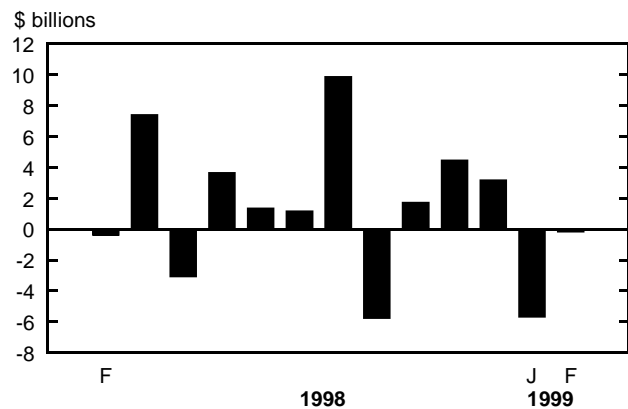
After five straight months of rising stock prices dating back to September 1998, both Canada and the United States recorded declines in February. A 6.2% retreat in Canadian stock prices (TSE 300 composite index) followed a 22% climb in the previous five months. A smaller 3.2% decline in U.S. stock prices (Standard and Poor's 500 index) followed a larger 30% rise in this same five-month period.

Canadian dollar

In February, the Canadian dollar continued to move up from an historical low set against the U.S. dollar in August 1998. The Canadian dollar closed February at US66.32 cents, the highest close since June 1998.

returned with modest purchases of \$0.8 billion in February. Underlying this shift in investment patterns was a large reduction in foreign holdings of Government of Canada Treasury bills in January (\$3.3 billion), followed by an increase in holdings in February (\$1.6 billion).

Foreign investment in Canadian securities*



* Includes bonds, stocks and money market paper.

Offsetting some of February's investment in Treasury bills was foreign selling in corporate paper (\$0.9 billion). American investors accounted for most of February's investment while January's large

disinvestment was widespread geographically. The differential on short-term instruments, which favours investment in Canada, was unchanged in February at 30 basis points.

Foreigners again reduced their holdings of Canadian bonds by \$0.8 billion in February, after a \$1.3 billion reduction in January. New Canadian bonds issued in foreign markets rebounded sharply to \$4.1 billion in February from an unusually low \$1.4 billion in January. There was, however, a similarly large increase in retirements of foreign-held Canadian bonds in February totalling \$5.0 billion, up from \$2.5 billion in January.

In February, new corporate bond issues accounted for two-thirds of the new issues while the major portion of retirements consisted of a US\$2 billion note issued for official reserves purposes. The differential on long-term government instruments, which has favoured investment in Canada since August 1998, shifted in February to favour the United States by a small margin.

In February, cross-border net investment activity in Canadian stock was muted for a third consecutive month. Canadian stock prices (TSE 300 composite index) closed down 6.2%, their first decline in six months. The increase over the August 1998 to January 1999 period was a robust 22%.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2328-2330, 2378-2380 and 4195.

The February 1999 issue of *Canada's international transactions in securities* (67-002-XPB, \$18/\$176) will be available in May. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Don Granger (613-951-1864), Balance of Payments and Financial Flows Division.

Canada's international transactions in securities

	Nov. 1998	Dec. 1998	Jan. 1999	Feb. 1999	Jan. to Feb. 1998	Jan. to Feb. 1999
	\$ millions					
Foreign investment in Canadian securities	4,423	3,130	-5,659	-155	488	-5,814
Bonds (net)	-1,002	2,243	-1,341	-794	567	-2,134
Outstanding	-2,700	3,077	-383	221	-3,809	-163
New Issues	7,278	2,594	1,418	4,061	8,303	5,479
Retirements	-6,341	-2,742	-2,498	-5,015	-4,227	-7,514
Change in interest payable ¹	761	-687	123	-59	301	63
Money market paper (net)	1,318	886	-4,407	803	-857	-3,603
Government of Canada	304	286	-3,297	1,626	-1,549	-1,671
Other paper	1,014	600	-1,109	-823	691	-1,932
Stocks (net)	4,107	1	89	-164	779	-76
Outstanding (net)	598	-253	77	-458	702	-381
New Issues (net)	3,508	254	12	293	77	305
Canadian investment in foreign securities	-4,113	-4,406	-3,192	-793	-3,696	-3,986
Bonds (net)	-2,433	-1,492	-1,868	799	-1,979	-1,069
Stocks (net)	-1,679	-2,913	-1,324	-1,592	-1,717	-2,917

¹ Interest accrued less interest paid

Note: A minus sign indicates an outflow of money from Canada (i.e. a withdrawal of foreign investment from Canada or an increase in Canadian investment abroad).

OTHER RELEASES

Female inmates, Aboriginal inmates and inmates serving life sentences

October 1996

Released today is the third in a series of publications that provide a statistical portrait of inmates in adult federal and provincial/territorial correctional facilities in Canada.

The Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, in collaboration with federal, provincial and territorial corrections officials, conducted a census of adult inmates on register in all adult correctional facilities as of midnight, October 5, 1996. Data were obtained through administrative records. Earlier data from this census were released in a *Juristat* on June 4, 1998. Detailed information was also provided in a comprehensive, 480-page report released on March 17, 1999.

This *Juristat* profiles three populations of inmates: women, Aboriginal people and individuals serving life sentences.

While the general population in Canada was made up almost equally of men and women, only 5% of prisoners in correctional facilities on October 5, 1996 were women. Female inmates tended to be in their early 30s, single, with grade 9 education or less, and unemployed at the time of admission. They were considered at lower risk to re-offend than men.

Aboriginal people were over-represented in the prison system. Although they comprised only 2% of the general adult population, they accounted for 17% in the prison population. They were younger on average than non-Aboriginal inmates, had less education and were more likely to have been unemployed. They were also considered at higher risk to re-offend, and they had a higher set of needs than non-Aboriginal inmates. These needs include problem areas requiring intervention, such as personal and emotional issues, marital and family problems, attitude and problems functioning in the community.

The data also showed that as of midnight October 5, 1996, inmates serving a life sentence comprised nearly one-fifth (18%) of the nearly 13,900 inmates in federal prisons. A person can be given a life sentence if they have been convicted of offences such as first-degree or second-degree murder. Parole eligibility varies from a minimum ten years served to a minimum 25 years served.

Individuals serving life sentences tended to be older and less educated than others in the prison population. The median age for lifers on October 5, 1996 was 39,

compared with 33 for other inmates. More than one-half (56%) of lifers had a grade 9 education or less, compared with 44% for other inmates.

In addition, a majority (84%) of inmates serving life sentences were considered at high risk to re-offend, a much higher proportion than the 53% of other inmates. Lifers also had a higher set of needs.

The *Juristat - Female inmates, Aboriginal inmates and inmates serving life sentences: a one-day snapshot*, (85-002-XPE, \$10/\$93; Internet version 85-002-XIE \$8/\$70) is now available.

For more information or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, or to order a copy of the *Juristat*, contact Information and Client Services (613-951-9023 or 1-800-387-2231), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. ■

Steel primary forms

Week ending April 17, 1999 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending April 17 1999 totalled 268 863, down 10.6% from the week-earlier 300 710 tonnes and down 17.1% from the year-earlier 324 431 tonnes. The cumulative total at the end of the week was 4 578 885 tonnes, a 5.3% decrease compared with 4 837 115 tonnes for the same period in 1998.

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

Construction-type plywood

February 1999

Canadian firms produced 151 104 cubic metres of construction-type plywood during February, a 2.8% decrease from the 155 411 cubic metres produced during February 1998.

Year-to-date production totalled 299 829 cubic metres, a decrease of 1.5% from the 304 328 cubic metres produced during the same period in 1998.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (level 1).

The February 1999 issue of *Construction-type plywood* (35-001-XIB, \$5/\$47) 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; simales@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Pulpwood and wood residue statistics

February 1999

Pulpwood receipts in February totalled 4 449 268 cubic metres, down 3.4% from 4 606 684 cubic metres in February 1998. Wood residue receipts rose 14.7% to 6 601 096 cubic metres, up from 5 756 248 cubic metres in February 1998. Consumption of pulpwood and wood residue totalled 9 062 701 cubic metres, up 9.9% from 8 246 121 cubic metres in February 1998.

The closing inventory of pulpwood and wood residue increased 6.1% to 15 713 904 cubic metres, up from 14 816 661 cubic metres in February 1998. Year-to-date consumption of pulpwood and wood residue (18 962 740 cubic metres) increased 9.9% from 17 248 846 cubic metres a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 54.

The February 1999 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; simales@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Airport activity statistics

First quarter 1998 (preliminary)

Preliminary airport activity data for the first quarter of 1998 are now available.

The April issue of the *Aviation statistics centre service bulletin* (51-004-XIB, \$8/\$82) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality for this release, contact Rolf Hakka (613-951-0068), Aviation Statistics Centre, Transportation Division. ■

Scientific and technical services

1996

Data on scientific and technical services for 1996 are now available. These data provide information such as

total revenue, percentage distribution of revenue by type of project and by category of client, and expenses by category.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 41 and 42.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality for this release, contact Diane Lake (613-951-3489; lakedia@statcan.ca), Services Division. ■

School board expenditures and revenues

1996

In 1996, school board expenditures in Canada edged downward by 0.1%, the first time a decrease has been reported. By comparison, the Consumer Price Index rose 1.6% in 1996. Although the Western provinces showed an increase (+3.2%) in school board spending, budget cuts in Ontario, Quebec and the Atlantic region overrode any potential increase for Canada as a whole in 1996. The decline in 1996 follows a 0.3% increase in school board expenditures in 1995 which was the smallest increase in more than 50 years.

The \$31.0 billion spent by school boards in 1996 represents 3.8% of the gross domestic product (GDP). This continues a downward trend which started after 1992 when spending by school boards had reached a peak of 4.3% of GDP. From 1991 to 1996, the annual cost per student decreased 5%, from \$7,200 to \$6,840 in constant 1996 dollars.

Expenditures by school boards account for about 85% of total elementary and secondary education. Other categories of elementary and secondary expenditures include private schools, federal schools, special education schools and departmental expenditures by the ministries of education. School boards account for 53% of all education expenditures including those of postsecondary and vocational training. School boards employ over 75% of all full-time educators (again, at all levels of education) and provide education to 80% of all full-time students. About 96% of school board revenues come from provincial governments and local taxation.

Note: School board expenditures include both operating and capital spending. Operating expenditures are salaries, fringe benefits, supplies and services, fees and contractual services, and other operating costs. These expenses can be further broken down by function (e.g., instruction, administration, transportation, school facilities, etc.).

Data from 1900 to 1996 are now available for school board expenditures and revenues.

Available on CANSIM: tables 00590301, 00590302 and 00590303.

For requests and extractions from CANSIM, contact Sharon Gibbs (613-951-1503; *Sharon-*

Anne.Gibbs@a.statcan.ca), Centre for Education Statistics. For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Claudio Pagliarello (613-951-1508; *Claudio.Pagliarello@a.statcan.ca*), Centre for Education Statistics.

School board expenditures

	Newfound-land	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon	Northwest Territories	Canada
	\$ millions												
1992	580.5	120.2	790.7	578.0	6,604.7	13,237.4	1,135.6	932.7	2,770.9	3,207.0	66.8	137.9	30,162.4
1993	562.8	123.1	770.8	589.9	6,728.3	13,142.4	1,162.2	926.2	2,884.8	3,360.6	60.8	148.3	30,460.2
1994	537.4	120.5	756.5	590.2	6,750.2	13,459.8	1,184.6	929.9	2,848.9	3,561.5	59.8	159.6	30,958.9
1995	533.3	112.8	734.5	580.6	6,758.2	13,506.8	1,193.0	937.5	2,782.4	3,695.3	64.0	164.9	31,063.3
1996	544.7 ^P	109.0	724.2	573.2	6,699.8	13,277.3	1,193.4	947.0	2,872.8	3,867.1	62.0	161.3	31,031.8

^P Preliminary results.



PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Canadian economic observer: the year in review,
April 1999
Catalogue number 11-010-XPB
(Canada: \$23/\$227; outside Canada: US\$23/US\$227).

Pulpwood and wood residue statistics,
February 1999
Catalogue number 25-001-XIB
(Canada: \$6/\$55; outside Canada: US\$6/US\$55).

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

Construction-type plywood, February 1999
Catalogue number 35-001-XIB
(Canada: \$5/\$47; outside Canada: US\$5/US\$47).

Wholesale trade, February 1999
Catalogue number 63-008-XIB
(Canada: \$14/\$140; outside Canada: US\$14/US\$140).

**Touriscope, international travel, advanced
information**, vol.15, no. 2
Catalogue number 66-001-PPB
(Canada: \$8/\$73; outside Canada: US\$8/US\$73).

**Juristat - female inmates, Aboriginal inmates, and
inmates serving life sentences: a one day
snapshot**, vol. 19, no. 5
Catalogue number 85-002-XIE
(Canada: \$8/\$70; outside Canada: US\$8/US\$70).

**Juristat - female inmates, Aboriginal inmates, and
inmates serving life sentences: a one day
snapshot**, vol. 19, no. 5
Catalogue number 85-002-XPE
(Canada: \$10/\$93; outside Canada: US\$10/US\$93).

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.

How to order publications

Simplify your data search with the *Statistics Canada Catalogue* (11-204-XPE, \$16; outside Canada: US\$16).

Its keyword index will guide you to statistics on Canada's social and economic activity.

Order publications by phone:

Please refer to the • Title • Catalogue number • Volume number • Issue number • Your VISA or MasterCard number.

In Canada and the United States call:

1-800-267-6677

From other countries call:

1-613-951-7277

To fax your order:

1-800-889-9734

Address changes or account inquiries:


1-800-700-1033

To order a publication by mail write: Statistics Canada, Circulation Management, Operations and Integration Division,
Ottawa, K1A 0T6. Include a cheque or money order payable to **Receiver General of Canada/Publications**. Canadian customers
add 7% GST and applicable PST.

To order by Internet: write to order@statcan.ca or download an electronic version by accessing Statistics Canada's
Web site (www.statcan.ca), under the headings *Products and services, Downloadable publications*.

Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.

Ontario 1-206 (if applicable) 1-800-387-6445



Thursday, June 3, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.



MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1995, each Canadian took an average of about 60 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

- **High-wire 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

Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001E.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-H, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at <http://www.statcan.ca>. To receive *The Daily* each morning by E-mail, send an E-mail message to listproc@statcan.ca. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Editor: Dan Smythe (613-951-1103, smytdan@statcan.ca)

Head of Official Release: Chantal Prévost (613-951-1088, prevcha@statcan.ca)

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 1999. Citation in newsprint, magazine, radio, and television reporting is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source. Any other reproduction is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source on all copies as follows: Statistics Canada, *The Daily*, catalogue 11-001E, along with date and page references.