



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, June 1, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

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OTHER RELEASES

Department store sales and stocks

April 1999

Department store sales rose 0.6% in April to \$1,455.5 million (seasonally adjusted). This increase followed consecutive declines in March (-0.6%) and February (-2.9%). April sales were 1.2% higher than in April 1998. Monthly department store sales, which were fairly flat throughout the spring and summer of 1998, have rebounded since the fall of 1998. The weakening sales in the spring and summer of 1998 occurred after a period of rising sales that began in early 1996.

Unadjusted for seasonality, department store sales at the national level grew 0.5% in April compared with April 1998. However, sales varied widely from one province to another. They declined 6.1% in the Atlantic provinces and 1.6% in the region which includes British Columbia, Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. Manitoba registered the largest increase (+2.4%), followed by Quebec (+2.0%), Saskatchewan (+1.5%), Ontario (+1.3%) and Alberta (+0.5%).

Department store sales including concessions

	Apr. 1998	Apr. 1999	Apr. 1998 to Apr. 1999	Jan. to Apr. 1999	Jan.- Apr. 1998 to Jan.- Apr. 1999
	unadjusted				
	\$ millions		% change	\$ millions	% change
Canada	1,333.7	1,339.9	0.5	4,533.2	3.5
Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island ¹	23.7	22.6	-4.9	81.1	5.0
Nova Scotia	41.9	39.4	-6.1	134.4	3.3
New Brunswick	31.5	29.2	-7.3	96.0	-0.5
Quebec	251.2	256.2	2.0	840.5	4.1
Ontario	562.3	569.5	1.3	1,931.1	4.6
Manitoba	56.3	57.6	2.4	191.5	4.4
Saskatchewan	44.2	44.8	1.5	151.9	5.4
Alberta	154.3	155.0	0.5	535.4	4.3
British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut ¹	168.3	165.6	-1.6	571.3	-1.5

¹ For reasons of confidentiality, data for Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, as well as British Columbia, Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut are combined.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 111-113.

Accounts receivable data for department stores are available through the Client Services Unit, Distributive Trades Division.

For data or general 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 or data quality of this release, contact Clérance Kimanyi (613-951-3592; kimacle@statcan.ca), Retail Trade Section, Distributive Trades Division. ■

Asphalt roofing

April 1999

Production of asphalt shingles totalled 3 828 245 metric bundles in April, a 2.4% increase from 3 739 210 metric bundles produced in April 1998.

January to April 1999 production amounted to 12 909 753 metric bundles, a 2.0% decrease from 13 169 323 metric bundles (revised) produced during the same period in 1998.

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

The April 1999 issue of *Asphalt roofing* (45-001-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 Don Grant (613-951-5998; grantdo@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Electric power capability and load

1997

Total net generating capability of electric power in Canada increased 0.6% in 1997/98 to a new high of 107 616 megawatts. Electric power utilities predict a compound growth rate of 0.6% (or 6 415 megawatts) in net generating capability over the next ten years.

The 1997 issue of *Electric power capability and load* (57-204-XPB, \$30) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Serge Grenier (613-951-3566; grenier@statcan.ca), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Crude petroleum and natural gas production,
February 1999
Catalogue number 26-006-XPB
(Canada: \$19/\$186; outside Canada: US\$19/US\$186).

Asphalt roofing, April 1999
Catalogue number 45-001-XIB
(Canada: \$5/\$47).

All prices exclude sales tax.

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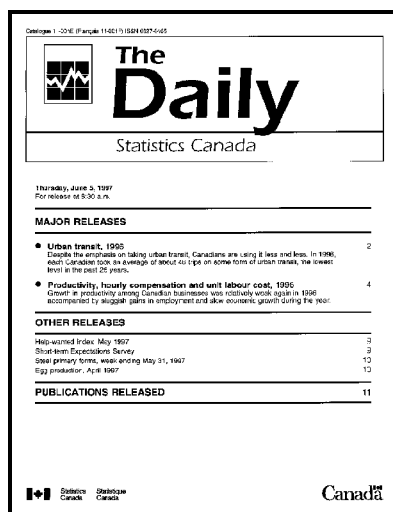
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