



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, August 13, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Composite Index, July 1999** 2
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MAJOR RELEASES

Composite Index

July 1999

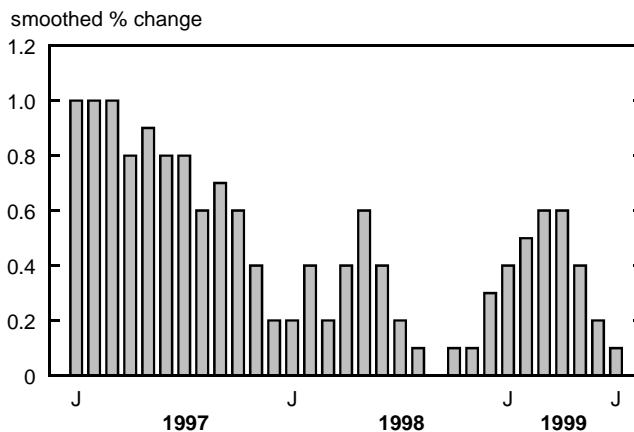
The growth of the leading indicator slowed to 0.1% in July from 0.2% in June, marking its smallest gain since last November. However, only two components were down, compared with three in the previous month. The principal brake on growth in July was a softening of demand for durable goods.

Following nine months of solid gains, new orders levelled off in the face of slack demand for durables by the consumer and export sectors. Conversely, shipments of non-durable goods continued to grow strongly. Together with falling inventories, this kept the overall ratio of shipments to stocks rising at a steady clip since the start of the year. The average workweek pulled out of a two-month drop.

Household demand remained mixed. A slump in auto sales stopped a six-month stretch of increases in overall demand for durable goods. Furniture and appliance sales, however, accelerated as the housing market picked up in recent months. The housing index was up 1.3% in July, its fifth straight increase, marking its longest period of growth since early 1997.

The U.S. leading indicator continued on a steady growth path, as the household demand-related components accelerated in line with improving incomes. Along with a recovery in commodity prices, this is an encouraging trend for our exports.

Composite Index



Available on CANSIM: matrix 191.

The August issue of *Canadian economic observer* (11-010-XPB, \$23/\$227) will be released next week. See *How to order publications*.

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

Composite Index

	February 1999	March 1999	April 1999	May 1999	June 1999	July 1999	Last month of data available
							% change
Composite leading indicator (1981=100)	210.7	212.0	213.3	214.2	214.7	215.0	0.1
Housing index (1981=100) ¹	124.5	125.6	127.4	129.6	132.2	133.9	1.3
Business and personal services employment ('000)	2,332	2,341	2,347	2,346	2,336	2,320	-0.7
TSE 300 stock price index (1975=1,000)	6,265	6,321	6,446	6,573	6,706	6,835	1.9
Money supply, M1 (\$ millions, 1981) ²	41,488	41,714	41,709	41,583	41,406	41,227	-0.4
U.S. composite leading indicator (1967=100) ³	226.8	227.3	227.9	228.4	228.8	229.2	0.2
Manufacturing							
Average workweek (hours)	38.8	38.8	38.8	38.7	38.6	38.6	0.0
New orders, durables (\$ millions, 1981) ⁴	16,242	16,405	16,700	16,847	16,893	16,888	0.0
Shipments/inventories of finished goods ⁴	1.61	1.63	1.64	1.66	1.67	1.68	0.01 ⁵
Retail trade							
Furniture and appliance sales (\$ millions, 1981) ⁴	1,397	1,408	1,417	1,424	1,425	1,430	0.4
Other durable goods sales (\$ millions, 1981) ⁴	4,619	4,650	4,689	4,731	4,760	4,763	0.0
Unsmoothed composite	213.3	216.3	215.6	214.7	213.9	214.2	0.1

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

² Deflated by the Consumer Price Index for all items.

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

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

⁵ Difference from previous month.



OTHER RELEASES

Steel wire and specified wire products

June 1999

Shipments of steel wire and specified wire products totalled 77 269 tonnes in June, up 1.3% from 76 278 tonnes (revised) in June 1998. Production and export market data for selected commodities are also available.

The June 1999 issue of *Steel wire and specified wire products* (41-006-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 Étienne Saint-Pierre (613-951-9837), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (series 19).

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Infomat - A weekly review, August 13, 1999
Catalogue number 11-002-XIE
(Canada: \$3/\$109).

Infomat - A weekly review, August 13, 1999
Catalogue number 11-002-XPE
(Canada: \$4/\$145; outside Canada: US\$4/US\$145).

Steel wire and specified wire products, June 1999
Catalogue number 41-006-XIB
(Canada: \$5/\$47).

Building permits, June 1999
Catalogue number 64-001-XIB
(Canada: \$19/\$186).

All prices exclude sales tax.

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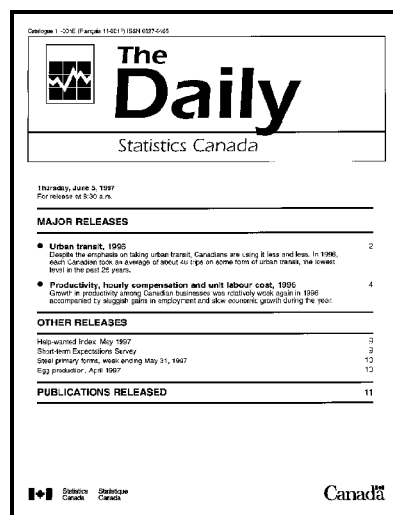
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RELEASE DATES: AUGUST 16 TO 20

August 16 to 20
(Release dates are subject to change.)

Release date	Title	Reference period
16	New motor vehicle sales	June 1999
17	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	June 1999
18	Consumer Price Index	July 1999
18	Health reports: Mortality in metropolitan areas	Summer 1999
19	Canadian international merchandise trade	June 1999
19	Wholesale trade	June 1999
20	Retail trade	June 1999