



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, August 16, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **New motor vehicle sales, June 1999** 2
New motor vehicles sales rose 1.8% in June compared with May, with truck sales accounting for more than two-thirds of this increase.

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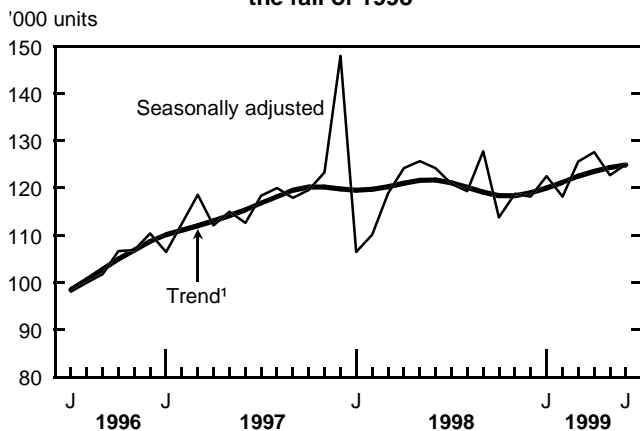
New motor vehicle sales

June 1999

Motor vehicle manufacturers reported sales of 124,979 vehicles in June, an increase of 2,263 vehicles (+1.8%) from May. This increase followed a 3.8% drop in May (all figures are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise indicated). Compared with the same month a year earlier, new motor vehicle sales advanced 0.6% in June.

New motor vehicle sales have been on an upward movement since the fall of 1998. This followed a period of relatively stable sales levels, punctuated by some large fluctuations. Previously, sales had generally risen from the start of 1996 to the end of 1997.

New motor vehicle sales continue to rise since the fall of 1998



¹ The short-term trend represents a moving average of the data.

Truck sales show stronger growth

Truck sales rose 2.8% to 60,636 units after decreases in April (-1.2%) and May (-2.4%). June's increase accounted for more than two-thirds of the overall rise in new motor vehicle sales. Truck sales, which have been moving upward since the start of 1999, generally declined during the second half of 1998. Before that, they had generally advanced since the start of 1996. Truck sales were up slightly in June (+0.3%) compared with the same month a year earlier.

Sales of passenger cars rose 1.0% in June to 64,342. This increase followed a 5.0% drop in May.

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.

North American-built new motor vehicles include vehicles manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico. All other new motor vehicles are considered imports (manufactured overseas).

For reasons of confidentiality, Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut have been included with British Columbia.

Following a decline of 6.8% in May, sales of North American-built passenger cars advanced 0.9% in June. Sales of these cars have generally been declining since the spring of 1997. However, they have recovered slightly since the fall of 1998. Sales of overseas-built cars rose 1.2% in June, the fourth straight monthly increase. They have been rising since the spring of 1997, following a period of stagnant sales that started at the beginning of 1996.

North American-built vehicles lose market share

North American-built vehicles accounted for 84.6% (data not adjusted for seasonality) of all new motor vehicles sold in June, down from 88.4% in June 1998. The share of sales represented by North American-built passenger cars fell from 84.5% to 77.3% during the same period. The share for North American-built trucks remained almost unchanged, edging up from 92.9% to 93.0%.

Newfoundland posted strong sales

Unadjusted for seasonality, new motor vehicle sales advanced 2.7% in June compared with June 1998. At the provincial level, sales varied considerably. Newfoundland (+20.0%) posted the greatest year-over-year gain, with higher sales for both passenger cars (+25.3%) and trucks (+13.2%).

Among the other provinces, sales of new motor vehicles increased 8.6% in both Ontario and Nova Scotia. British Columbia (+3.4%), Manitoba (+2.9%) and New Brunswick (+2.4%) also posted higher sales compared with June 1998. However, sales decreased in four provinces: Saskatchewan (-11.2%), Alberta (-10.5%), Prince Edward Island (-6.6%) and Quebec (-1.4%).

Available on CANSIM: matrix 64.

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

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

New motor vehicle sales

	June 1998	May 1999 ^r	June 1999 ^p	June 1998 to June 1999	May to June 1999
seasonally adjusted					
				% change	
New motor vehicles	124,216	122,716	124,979	0.6	1.8
Passenger cars	63,773	63,717	64,342	0.9	1.0
North American ¹	53,037	48,464	48,900	-7.8	0.9
Overseas	10,735	15,253	15,442	43.8	1.2
Trucks, vans and buses	60,443	58,999	60,636	0.3	2.8
Market share					
	June 1998	June 1999 ^p	June 1998 to June 1999	June 1998	June 1999
unadjusted					
			% change	%	
New motor vehicles	152,505	156,553	2.7		
Passenger cars	82,600	83,882	1.6		
North American ¹	69,800	64,832	-7.1	84.5	77.3
Overseas	12,800	19,050	48.8	15.5	22.7
Trucks, vans and buses	69,905	72,671	4.0		
North American ¹	64,976	67,568	4.0	92.9	93.0
Overseas	4,929	5,103	3.5	7.1	7.0

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

¹ Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.



OTHER RELEASES

Travel between Canada and other countries

June 1999

In June, Canadians took 1.1 million overnight trips (one or more nights) south of the border, down 0.5% from May. Meanwhile, the number of such trips by Americans to Canada decreased 4.7% from the previous month to 1.2 million. Despite this third consecutive monthly decrease (the high of 1.3 million was set in November 1998), overnight trips by Americans to this side of the border are still higher than the same period last year. (Unless otherwise specified, the data are seasonally adjusted.)

Canadians took 411,000 overnight air trips to the United States in June, up 1.3% from May and the highest level since the peak of 408,000 in September 1997. Overnight air travel by Americans to Canada decreased for the third consecutive month in June, down 3.2% from May to 310,000. Despite these three monthly declines, air travel by Americans to Canada is still higher than the same period a year ago.

Canadians travelled for at least one night to overseas destinations on 334,000 occasions in June, down 6.0% from May. The number of such trips has been fluctuating between 347,000 and 370,000 since the high of 374,000 set in November 1998.

Meanwhile, the number of such trips by overseas residents to Canada decreased 1.5% in June to 341,000. After being on a downward trend since the high of 393,000 in February 1997, overnight trips by overseas residents have been fluctuating between 338,000 and 350,000 since November 1998.

Among Canada's ten most important markets other than the United States, tourists from South Korea (+51.8%), Taiwan (+23.8%) and Mexico (+16.5%) made substantially more overnight trips to Canada in June than in June 1998, while tourists from Switzerland (-6.6%) and Japan (-3.0%) recorded the largest drop in trips to Canada (unadjusted data).

In June, the number of same-day car trips by Canadians to the United States decreased 0.5% from May to 2.2 million. Meanwhile, Americans made 2.3 million same-day car trips to this side of the border, up 0.5% from the previous month.

Note: Month-to-month comparisons use seasonally adjusted data. Year-over-year comparisons use unadjusted data.

Travel between Canada and other countries

	May 1999 ^r	June 1999 ^p	May to June 1999	June 1999 ^p	June 1998 to June 1999
	seasonally adjusted		unadjusted		
	'000	% change	'000	% change	
Canadian trips abroad¹	3,775	3,718	-1.5	3,692	-6.2
Same-day car trips to the United States	2,166	2,155	-0.5	2,314	-9.2
Total trips, one or more nights	1,500	1,473	-1.8	1,290	-1.0
United States ²	1,145	1,139	-0.5	1,039	-0.2
Car	637	624	-2.0	603	-2.6
Plane	406	411	1.3	309	5.0
Other modes of transportation	103	104	1.3	128	-0.4
Other countries ³	355	334	-6.0	251	-4.0
Travel to Canada¹	4,087	4,056	-0.8	5,085	2.1
Same-day car trips from the United States	2,297	2,308	0.5	2,550	3.5
Total trips, one or more nights	1,629	1,564	-4.0	2,248	0.5
United States ²	1,283	1,223	-4.7	1,747	0.1
Car	803	758	-5.5	1,088	-0.7
Plane	321	310	-3.2	424	0.8
Other modes of transportation	160	155	-3.1	235	2.3
Other countries ³	346	341	-1.5	501	2.2

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

¹ Totals exceed the sum of "same-day car trips" and "total trips, one or more nights" because they include all of the same-day trips.

² Estimates for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and estimated numbers for planes, trains, boats and other methods.

³ Figures for other countries exclude same-day entries by land only, via the United States.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2661-2697, 5780-6048 and 8200-8329.

The June 1999 issue of *International travel, advance information* (66-001-PPB, \$8/\$73) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For data requests, contact Pearl Bellefeuille (613-951-1674; fax: 613-951-2909; bellpea@statcan.ca). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Johanne Plante (613-951-1910; fax: 613-951-2909; planjoh@statcan.ca), International

Travel Section, Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. ■

Industrial monitor on CD-ROM

August 1999

The *Industrial monitor on CD-ROM* offers up-to-date data on more than 150 manufacturing industries and 33 other industries covering construction, wholesale trade and retail trade. This information is offered for 25 sectors and can be purchased by individual sector or as a complete package.

For each industry, up to 50 variables are organized in the table viewer according to five table types: supply, demand, price, labour/employment, and investment/capital stock. The underlying database is also available via the series browser for more extensive time-series analysis and inter-industry comparisons.

The *Industrial monitor on CD-ROM* is linked to the Standard Industrial Classification manual, provides pop-up textual descriptions for every series and embodies consistent data conventions — all features designed to make analysis easy and accurate. State-of-the-art functions offer searching, graphing, viewing, exporting and transforming capabilities, providing you the information quickly and easily.

The August 1999 issue of the *Industrial monitor on CD-ROM* is now available. An annual subscription (one CD-ROM per month) to the full package (15F0015XCB) costs \$995, a savings of more than 80% off the annual subscription price of \$258 per individual sector.

For more information, or to request a free demonstration CD-ROM, contact Kim Lauzon (toll-free: 1-800-887-IMAD (4623); 613-951-IMAD (4623); fax: 613-951-3688; imad@statcan.ca), Industry Measures and Analysis Division, or contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre. ■

Steel primary forms

June 1999

Steel primary forms production for June totalled 1 318 663 tonnes, a 6.2% decrease from 1 406 296 tonnes produced in June 1998.

Year-to-date production reached 8 011 225 tonnes, down 3.0% from 8 254 053 tonnes a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 58 (level 2, series 3).

The June 1999 issue of *Primary iron and steel* (41-001-XIB, \$5/\$47) 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 Andy Shinnan (613-951-3515; shinand@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Shipments of rolled steel

June 1999

Rolled steel shipments for June totalled 1 300 657 tonnes, up 5.2% from 1 236 434 tonnes in May and up 11.3% from 1 168 392 tonnes in June 1998.

Year-to-date shipments at the end of June 1999 totalled 7 548 813 tonnes, up 3.5% from 7 293 098 tonnes for the same period in 1998.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 58 and 122 (series 22-25).

The June 1999 issue of *Primary iron and steel* (41-001-XIB, \$5/\$47) 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 Andy Shinnan (613-951-3515; shinand@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Shipments of solid fuel-burning heating products

Second quarter 1999

Shipments of solid fuel-burning heating products totalled \$17.0 million for the second quarter of 1999, a 29.8% increase from the \$13.1 million (revised) of these products shipped during the second quarter of 1998.

The quantities for these shipments are also available.

The 1999 second quarter issue of *Shipments of solid fuel-burning heating products* (25-002-XIB, \$6/\$19) 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; saineti@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Shipments of solid fuel-burning heating products,
second quarter 1999
Catalogue number 25-002-XIB
(Canada: \$6/\$19).

Primary iron and steel, June 1999
Catalogue number 41-001-XIB
(Canada: \$5/\$47).

Industry price indexes, June 1999
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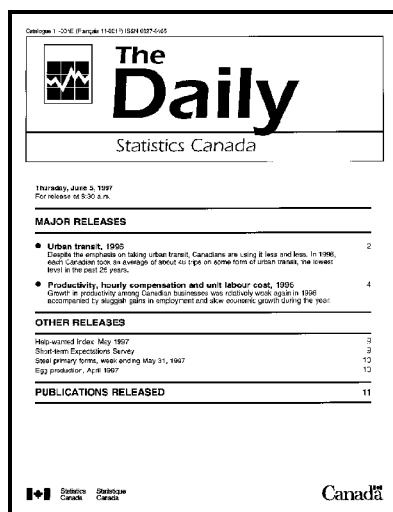
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