



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, September 15, 1999

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **New motor vehicle sales, July 1999** 3
Strong truck and passenger car sales led to a 4.0% increase in the number of new motor vehicles sold in July.
-

OTHER RELEASES

Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises, second quarter 1999	5
Travel between Canada and other countries, July 1999	5
Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard, July 1999	7
Dairy statistics, July and August 1999	7
Inter-corporate ownership on CD-ROM, third quarter 1999	7
Growing innovative firms, 1999	7

(continued on following page)

Back to school with the new E-STAT

1999

The 1999 Edition of E-STAT is now available. Since 1992, this interactive learning tool has continually evolved to meet the changing needs of the education sector. The 1999 edition contains the latest data from the 1996 Census and a wide range of previous censuses, as well as updates from the CANSIM (Statistics Canada's Canadian Socio-economic Information Management System) database.

E-STAT 1999 also incorporates a number of features designed to make it more user-friendly. Features include a quick user's guide, a teachers' handbook and lesson plans/teaching activities written by educators for educators.

E-STAT brings current statistical and demographic data about Canada into the classroom. Students learn how to develop critical thinking skills, and transform data into colourful, easy-to-read graphs and maps.

E-STAT is now more affordable and accessible to educators.

The Internet (10F0174XIB) and the CD-ROM Windows (10F0174XCB) versions of *E-STAT* are now available. For further information or to order, contact the nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre or consult Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca) under *Education resources*.



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED	8
------------------------------	----------

REGIONAL REFERENCE CENTRES	9
-----------------------------------	----------

MAJOR RELEASES

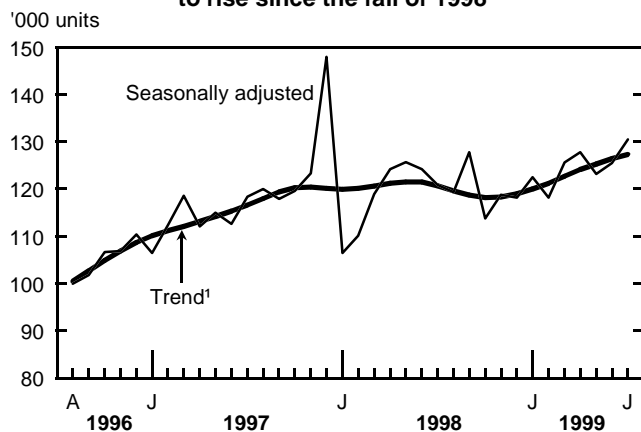
New motor vehicle sales

July 1999

Strong truck and passenger car sales led to a 4.0% increase in the number of new motor vehicles sold in July. This follows a 1.9% increase in June. New motor vehicle sales have been moving upward since the fall of 1998, after a period of relatively stable sales in the rest of the year, punctuated by some large fluctuations. (All figures are seasonally adjusted unless otherwise indicated.)

In July, 130,542 new motor vehicles were sold, an increase of 5,068 units over June. This represents the second highest level of monthly sales ever recorded. (The record occurred in December 1997, which was an exceptional month.)

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 and passenger car sales remain strong

Truck sales rose for a second consecutive month, up 5.0% in July to 64,007 vehicles. Truck sales have been rising since the start of 1999, after generally declining throughout the second half of 1998. Before that, they had generally advanced since the start of 1996.

For the second consecutive month, sales of passenger cars advanced (up 3.2% in July to 66,534). Sales of passenger cars have generally been moving upward since the fall of 1998, after remaining stable since the summer of 1997.

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.

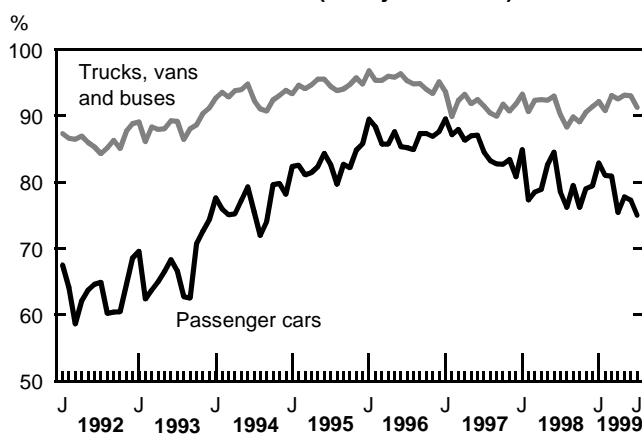
North American-built new motor vehicles include vehicles manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico. All other new motor vehicles are considered imports (manufactured overseas).

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

North American-built passenger cars lose market share

In data not adjusted for seasonality, the market share for North American-built passenger cars has generally been declining since the start of 1997, falling from 89.5% in January 1997 to 75.0% in July 1999. However, the share of sales for North American-built trucks has remained relatively stable over the same period, going from 93.6% in January 1997 to 91.2% in July 1999.

Market shares for cars and trucks built in North America (unadjusted data)



The drop in the market share captured by North American-built vehicles is due to several factors. The Asian crisis may have stimulated sales of overseas-built passenger cars owing to the depreciation of the currencies in that region. However, the firming-up of some Asian currencies since mid-1998 could have

rendered the purchase of vehicles from Asia less attractive. This could have slowed the decrease of market share of North American-built cars and at the same time pushed up the market share of North American-built trucks. The attractiveness of the new models may have also stimulated demand for overseas-built vehicles.

Ontario posts strong sales

Nationally, new motor vehicle sales (not adjusted for seasonality) advanced 7.9% in July over the same month a year earlier. In July, Ontario posted the largest year-over-year gain (+13.9%) for both passenger cars (+12.3%) and trucks (+16.0%).

Among the other provinces, New Brunswick, Manitoba and Newfoundland all registered gains greater than 10.0%. Nova Scotia (+6.2%), Quebec

(+4.7%), British Columbia (+4.3%), Saskatchewan (+3.4%) and Prince Edward Island (+1.4%) also posted increases. Only Alberta registered a decline (-3.8%) in July.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 64.

The July 1999 issue of *New motor vehicle sales* (63-007-XIB, \$13/\$124) will be available shortly. 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), Retail Trade Section, Distributive Trades Division. For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Cl  rance Kimanyi (613-951-3592; kimacle@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

New motor vehicle sales

	July 1998	June 1999 ^r	July 1999 ^p	July 1998 to July 1999	June to July 1999
seasonally adjusted					
				% change	
New motor vehicles	120,862	125,474	130,542	8.0	4.0
Passenger cars	61,858	64,495	66,534	7.6	3.2
North American ¹	49,325	49,060	50,985	3.4	3.9
Overseas	12,533	15,435	15,550	24.1	0.7
Trucks, vans and buses	59,004	60,979	64,007	8.5	5.0
Market share					
	July 1998	July 1999 ^p	July 1998 to July 1999	July 1998	July 1999
unadjusted					
			% change	%	
New motor vehicles	120,549	130,047	7.9		
Passenger cars	64,649	69,033	6.8		
North American ¹	50,743	51,755	2.0	78.5	75.0
Overseas	13,906	17,278	24.2	21.5	25.0
Trucks, vans and buses	55,900	61,014	9.1		
North American ¹	50,392	55,643	10.4	90.1	91.2
Overseas	5,508	5,371	-2.5	9.9	8.8

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

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

OTHER RELEASES

Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises

Second quarter 1999 (preliminary)

Operating profits of Canadian businesses increased 1.6% to \$37.2 billion in the second quarter of 1999, the third consecutive quarterly increase. Profits have now recovered 19.8% over the past three quarters, following a downturn throughout most of 1998.

The second quarter gain was entirely concentrated in the non-financial enterprises, where strong retail, construction and mineral fuels sectors boosted profits by 3.7%. The financial enterprises' profits slipped 3.9% in the quarter, with insurers suffering the largest decline.

Profits in the retail sector jumped 17.8% to \$2.0 billion in the second quarter. Most retailers reported rising profits, with general merchandise stores and food and beverage retailers leading the way.

The construction sector took advantage of a strong housing market to boost sales and profits in the second quarter. Housing investment, as measured in the National Economic and Financial Accounts, jumped 3.6%. The value of overall building permits issued in the quarter advanced 4.4%, with residential permits showing a 7.6% rise.

Surging crude oil prices lifted operating profits in the mineral fuels industry by 32.1% in the second quarter. Crude oil prices reaped the benefit of curbed OPEC production to post a 33.0% year-over-year increase in June.

Operating profits in the manufacturing sector were unchanged in the second quarter. Gains by the motor vehicle and parts manufacturers were offset by profit declines in several other manufacturing groupings.

Insurance enterprises saw their second quarter operating profits decline 16.9% to \$0.8 billion, largely due to higher insurance claims incurred in the quarter.

Enterprises classified to other financial intermediaries were another source of weakness on the financial side. Lower gains on the sale of securities and other assets pulled second quarter profits down 12.1% to \$1.1 billion.

Note: Beginning with the first quarter of 1999, significant changes have been made to the Quarterly Survey of Financial Statistics for Enterprises. These changes affect the comparability and the historical continuity of these financial statistics. The statistics

are now presented on the basis of the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS Canada 1997) that differs markedly from the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification for Companies and Enterprises (SIC-C) previously in use. In addition, the survey is undergoing significant methodological changes. These changes were not all completed in time for application in the second quarter of 1999. Consequently, these results were produced by converting SIC-C based estimates to the NAICS Canada 1997 basis. As a result, the first and second quarter results are not as reliable as usual and should be interpreted with caution. The fully redesigned NAICS Canada 1997 based survey should be in place for the third quarter 1999 release. For this reason, the first and second quarter results are preliminary only and may be subject to significant revision. Historical data on a NAICS Canada 1997 basis for 1988 to 1998 is available on CANSIM. The previous SIC-C based series has been terminated as of the fourth quarter of 1998.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 8330-8383.

For more information on financial industries data, contact Robert Moreau (613-951-2512). For more information on non-financial industries data (613-951-2662), contact Bill Potter. For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Jean-Pierre Simard (613-951-0741), Industrial Organization and Finance Division. ■

Travel between Canada and other countries

July 1999

Foreigners made 4.2 million trips to Canada in July, up 2.9% over June. Meanwhile, the number of same-day and overnight trips by Canadians visiting foreign countries increased 2.1% to 3.8 million, mostly due to an increase of Canadian trips south of the border. (Unless otherwise specified, the data are seasonally adjusted.)

For the 18th consecutive month, the number of overnight trips by Americans to Canada has exceeded the number of Canadians travelling to the United States. Americans stayed at least one night in Canada on 1.3 million occasions in July, up 4.8% from June. The number of overnight trips by Americans reached its most recent low in March 1993 (at 941,000), and

then fluctuated around 1.1 million from mid-1994 to September 1996. Since then, the number of overnight trips has generally been rising.

Canadians took 1.2 million overnight trips south of the border in July, up 1.2% from June and the highest level in more than a year (14 months). The number of these trips had fluctuated between 1.2 million and 1.3 million from mid-1994 to February 1998, and has since varied from 1.0 million to 1.2 million. Canadian overnight trips peaked at 1.8 million in December 1991 when the Canadian dollar was worth US\$0.87 and reached a low of 986,000 in August 1998 when the Canadian dollar was valued at US\$0.65.

Same-day cross-border car trips by Americans increased 3.1% in July to a record high of 2.4 million. Meanwhile, the number of such trips by Canadians increased 2.8% from the previous month to 2.2 million. Car excursions by Americans to Canada have generally been moving upward since a low of 1.4 million in January 1994. Meanwhile, the monthly number of same-day car trips by Canadians to the United States has generally been decreasing since November 1991, when Canadians made more than twice as many trips as in July.

The number of overnight trips by Canadians to overseas countries decreased 2.1% to 325,000 in July — the fifth monthly decline since the beginning of the year. Meanwhile, overseas residents travelled for at least one night to Canada on 343,000 occasions, up 0.5% from June. Among Canada's 10 most important markets other than the United States, tourists from South Korea (+51.2%), Taiwan (+22.6%) and Mexico (+14.4%) made substantially more overnight trips to Canada than in July 1998, while tourists from Switzerland (-11.1%) recorded the largest drop in trips to Canada (unadjusted data).

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

Travel between Canada and other countries

	June 1999 ^r	July 1999 ^p	June to July 1999	June 1999 ^p	July 1998 to July 1999
	seasonally adjusted			unadjusted	
	'000	% change		'000	% change
Canadian trips abroad¹	3,732	3,809	2.1	4,852	0.8
Same-day car trips to the United States	2,172	2,234	2.8	2,826	-2.4
Total trips, one or more nights	1,474	1,481	0.4	1,953	5.7
United States ²	1,142	1,156	1.2	1,657	8.2
Car	626	636	1.7	1,138	8.1
Plane	412	415	0.9	322	11.6
Other modes of transportation	105	104	-0.4	198	3.6
Other countries ³	332	325	-2.1	296	-6.4
Travel to Canada¹	4,070	4,187	2.9	7,006	7.4
Same-day car trips from the United States	2,329	2,401	3.1	3,352	9.1
Total trips, one or more nights	1,564	1,625	3.9	3,348	6.2
United States ²	1,222	1,282	4.8	2,687	6.8
Car	757	797	5.4	1,838	7.3
Plane	310	319	2.9	496	2.4
Other modes of transportation	156	165	6.1	353	10.8
Other countries ³	341	343	0.5	661	3.7

^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 July 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 further 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. ■

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard

July 1999

Oriented strandboard production in July totalled 642 440 cubic metres, an increase of 26.3% from 508 608 cubic metres in July 1998. Particleboard production reached 203 707 cubic metres, an increase of 8.8% from 187 162 cubic metres in July 1998. Fibreboard production in July was 93 126 cubic metres, up 31.0% from 71 097 cubic metres during the same month a year earlier.

Year-to-date production of oriented strandboard totalled 4 454 450 cubic metres in 1999, a 25.4% increase from 3 553 239 cubic metres for the same period last year. Particleboard production reached 1 403 316 cubic metres, up 5.0% from 1 336 316 cubic metres in 1998. Year-to-date fibreboard production reached 576 558 cubic metres, up 21.6% from 474 320 cubic metres during the same period in 1998.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 31 (series 2, 3 and 5) and 122 (series 8).

The July 1999 issue of *Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard* (36-003-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 ■

Dairy statistics

July and August 1999 (preliminary)

Monthly dairy statistics for July and August are now available.

These data will be included in the third quarter 1999 issue of *The dairy review* (23-001-XPB, \$36/\$119; 23-001-XIB, \$27/\$89), which will be released in November. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality for this release, contact Anna Michalowska (951-2442; 1-800-465-1991; fax: 613-951-3868), Agriculture Division. ■

Inter-corporate ownership on CD-ROM

Third quarter 1999

Inter-corporate ownership on CD-ROM (61-517-XCB, annual subscription with quarterly updates: \$995; single copy without updates: \$350) is now available. The *Inter-corporate ownership 1997 directory* is also available in hard copy (61-517-XPB, \$350). See *How to order publications*.

For more information, contact Jeannine D'Angelo (613-951-2604) or Mike Nagrodski (613-951-0393), Industrial Organization and Finance Division. ■

Growing innovative firms

1999

Data from the Survey of Growing Innovative Firms 1999, which was sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, are now available for Ontario.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Penny Basset (613-951-3217; basspen@statcan.ca), Small Business and Special Surveys Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard, July 1999
Catalogue number 36-003-XIB
(Canada: \$5/\$47).

Canada's balance of International payments, Second quarter 1999
Catalogue number 67-001-XIB
(Canada: \$29/\$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:

1-877-287-4369

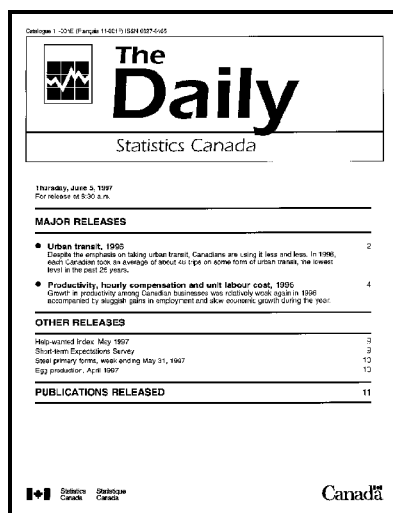
Address changes or account inquiries:

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.



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.

REGIONAL REFERENCE CENTRES

Statistics Canada's Regional Reference Centres offer a full range of the Agency's products and services. Each reference centre is equipped with a library and sales counter where you can consult or purchase publications, diskettes, CD-ROM discs, microfiche, maps and more.

Each centre has facilities to retrieve information from CANSIM and E-STAT, Statistics Canada's data retrieval systems. A telephone inquiry service is available with toll-free access for those located outside local calling areas. Many other valuable services—from seminars to consultations—are also offered. For information, contact your nearest Regional Reference Centre.

Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
1741 Brunswick Street
2nd Floor, Box 11
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3X8
Local calls: (902) 426-5331
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-902-426-9538
E-mail: atlantic.info@statcan.ca

Quebec and Nunavut

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
4th Floor, East Tower
Guy Favreau Complex
200 René Lévesque Blvd. W.
Montréal, Québec
H2Z 1X4
Local calls: (514) 283-5725
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-514-283-9350

National Capital Region

Statistical Reference Centre (NCR)
Statistics Canada
Lobby, R.H. Coats Building
Holland Avenue
Tunney's Pasture
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0T6
Local calls: (613) 951-8116
Fax: 1-613-951-0581
E-mail: infostats@statcan.ca

Ontario

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
10th Floor
Arthur Meighen Building
25 St. Clair Avenue East
Toronto, Ontario
M4T 1M4
Local calls: (416) 973-6586
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-416-973-7475

Manitoba

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Via Rail Building, Suite 200
123 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 4V9
Local calls: (204) 983-4020
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-204-983-7543
E-mail: statswpg@solutions.net

Saskatchewan

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Park Plaza, Suite 440
2365 Albert Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4P 4K1
Local calls: (306) 780-5405
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-306-780-5403
E-mail: statcan@sk.sympatico.ca

Southern Alberta

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Discovery Place, Room 201
3553-31 Street N.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T2L 2K7
Local calls: (403) 292-6717
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-403-292-4958
E-mail: degagnej@cadvision.com

Northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
15th Floor, Park Square
10001 Bellamy Hill
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 3B6
Local calls: (780) 495-3027
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-780-495-5318
E-mail: ewieall@statcan.ca

British Columbia and the Yukon

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Library Square Tower, Suite 600
300 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6B 6C7
Local calls: (604) 666-3691
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-604-666-4863

National toll-free enquiries line (Canada and the United States): 1-800-263-1136
Toll-free order-only line (Canada and the United States): 1-800-267-6677
Toll-free fax order line (Canada and the United States): 1-877-287-4369
Toll-free telecommunications device for the hearing impaired: 1-800-363-7629