

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, October 13, 2000

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **New motor vehicle sales, August 2000** 2
 Stimulated by manufacturer's incentives, new motor vehicle sales rose 5.1% in August compared with July.
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MAJOR RELEASES

New motor vehicle sales

August 2000

Stimulated by manufacturer's incentives, new motor vehicle sales rose 5.1% in August compared with July. This followed a 1.5% decline in the previous month. (Unless otherwise indicated, all figures in this release are seasonally adjusted.)

Dealers delivered 139,281 new vehicles in August, the largest monthly total since the start of 2000 and the third largest in the past 10 years. Both passenger cars and trucks contributed to the August increase.

In recent months, new motor vehicle sales have resumed an upward movement, re-invigorated by incentives offered in order to clear out 2000 model year inventories. Previously, sales had generally been stagnant since the fall of 1999, after a strong upward movement that began at the end of 1998.

Note to readers

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted, unless otherwise indicated. Seasonally adjusted provincial data from January 1991 to the present are available on CANSIM.

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 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 to have been manufactured overseas.

Data for Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut have been included with the data for British Columbia.

American-built passenger cars (+5.1%) and those built overseas (+7.5%) contributed to the August growth.

The July and August increases have caused sales of new passenger cars to stabilize following a period of declines starting at the end of 1999. Previously, sales had been rising since the fall of 1998.

The number of new trucks sold rose 4.5% in August compared with July. This gain negated much of the 5.8% decrease in new truck sales from June to July. In August, 65,658 new trucks were sold, 2,810 more than in July. Trucks include minivans, sport utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses.

New truck sales have been edging up for the past several months, following a period of stagnant sales starting in the summer of 1999. Previously, truck sales had registered strong increases throughout the first half of 1999.

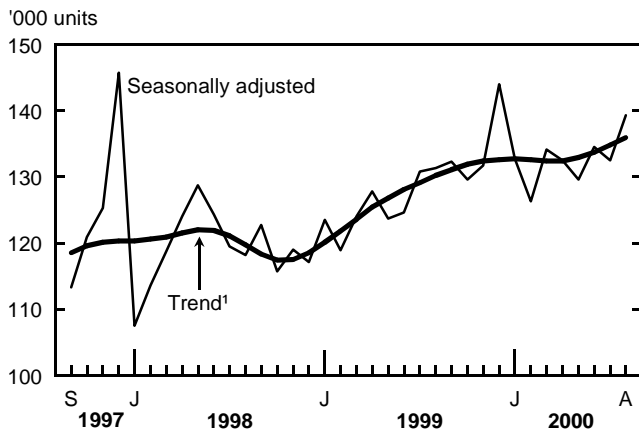
Sales up in all provinces

The number of new motor vehicles sold rose in August in all provinces. Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick showed the largest gains; each of these provinces reported an increase of at least 9.0% compared with July. However, those provinces had registered major declines in July.

Despite August's increase in new motor vehicle sales in the Atlantic provinces, sales remained little changed in Newfoundland and continued to decrease in the maritime provinces, as they have since the fall of 1999.

In the western provinces, the gains registered in August were generally not as large as in other provinces. However, for more than a year sales have been rising

New motor vehicle sales surge ahead



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

Preliminary figures from the auto industry show that new motor vehicle sales rose in September.

Sales up for both passenger cars and trucks

For a second consecutive month, sales of new passenger cars increased. The number of new cars sold rose 5.7% in August compared with July, when the increase was 2.7%. In August, 73,623 new passenger cars were sold. The increases in July and August ended a series of three monthly declines. Sales of both North

in all western provinces except Manitoba, where they have remained stable.

Quebec (+6.7 %) and Ontario (+5.4 %) also saw higher sales in August, following declines in July. Despite the gain in August, new motor vehicle sales in Quebec have changed little since the start of 2000. Previously, they had been moving upward since the fall of 1998. New vehicle sales in Ontario have resumed an upward movement in the last few months, following a pause extending back to the fall of 1999. Previously, new motor vehicle sales in Ontario had sustained a strong upward movement starting in the fall of 1998.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 64.

The August 2000 issue of *New motor vehicle sales* (63-007-XIB, \$13/\$124) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For data or general information, contact the Client Services Unit (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Clérance Kimanyi (613-951-6363; kimacle@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division. □

New motor vehicle sales

	Aug. 1999	July 2000 ^r	Aug. 2000 ^p	Aug. 1999 to Aug. 2000	July to Aug. 2000
seasonally adjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
New motor vehicles	131,284	132,516	139,281	6.1	5.1
Passenger cars	67,069	69,668	73,623	9.8	5.7
North American ¹	51,773	52,533	55,203	6.6	5.1
Overseas	15,296	17,136	18,420	20.4	7.5
Trucks, vans and buses	64,215	62,848	65,658	2.2	4.5
New motor vehicles					
Newfoundland	2,046	1,911	2,102	2.7	10.0
Prince Edward Island	395	357	390	-1.3	9.2
Nova Scotia	3,723	3,585	3,627	-2.6	1.2
New Brunswick	3,632	3,204	3,492	-3.9	9.0
Quebec	32,824	32,048	34,196	4.2	6.7
Ontario	55,760	55,570	58,591	5.1	5.4
Manitoba	3,581	3,724	3,762	5.1	1.0
Saskatchewan	2,972	3,214	3,399	14.4	5.8
Alberta	13,734	14,802	15,266	11.2	3.1
British Columbia ²	12,617	14,101	14,456	14.6	2.5
	Aug. 1999	July 2000	Aug. 2000 ^p	Aug. 1999 to Aug. 2000	
unadjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
New motor vehicles	125,410	129,046	141,733	13.0	
Passenger cars	66,941	69,409	78,559	17.4	
North American ¹	49,687	51,952	56,540	13.8	
Overseas	17,254	17,457	22,019	27.6	
Trucks, vans and buses	58,469	59,637	63,174	8.0	
New motor vehicles					
Newfoundland	2,154	2,153	2,400	11.4	
Prince Edward Island	415	432	417	0.5	
Nova Scotia	3,573	3,662	3,634	1.7	
New Brunswick	3,463	3,186	3,471	0.2	
Quebec	33,230	33,180	37,057	11.5	
Ontario	53,010	53,333	59,790	12.8	
Manitoba	3,361	3,645	3,770	12.2	
Saskatchewan	2,712	3,017	3,305	21.9	
Alberta	12,033	13,185	14,316	19.0	
British Columbia ²	11,459	13,253	13,573	18.4	

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

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

² Includes Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

OTHER RELEASES

Steel primary forms

Week ending October 7, 2000 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending October 7 totalled 312 623 tonnes, up 5.4% from 296 580 tonnes a week earlier and up 15.8% from 269 891 tonnes in the same week of 1999. The year-to-date total at the end of the reference week was 12 993 847 tonnes, a 5.1% increase compared with 12 360 127 tonnes for the same period in 1999.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jean-Marie Houle (613-951-4925; houlejm@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins

August 2000

Chemical firms produced 203 946 tonnes of polyethylene synthetic resins in August, an 8.4% decrease from 222 733 tonnes in August 1999.

Year-to-date production at the end of August totalled 1 769 712 tonnes, up 8.6% from 1 630 234 tonnes produced a year earlier.

Data are also available on production of 3 other types of synthetic resins and 24 industrial chemicals.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 951.

The August 2000 issue of *Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins* (46-002-XIB, \$5/\$47) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Huguette Montcalm (613-951-9827; monthug@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Steel pipe and tubing

August 2000

Steel pipe and tubing production totalled 215 884 tonnes in August, a 5.9% increase from 203 864 tonnes in August 1999.

Year-to-date production to the end of August 2000 was 1 792 022 tonnes, up 14.5% from 1 564 575 tonnes in the same period of 1999.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 35.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jean-Marie Houle (613-951-4925; houlejm@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Steel wire and specified wire products

August 2000

Shipments of steel wire and specified wire products totalled 64 640 tonnes in August, down 9.2% from 71 187 tonnes in August 1999. Production and export market data for selected commodities are also available.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (series 19).

The August 2000 issue of *Steel wire and specified wire products* (41-006-XIB, \$5/\$47) is now available. See *How to order products*.

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. ■

Restaurants, caterers and taverns

August 2000

Estimated total receipts of restaurants, caterers and taverns for August were \$2.75 billion, an increase of 7.6% over the August 1999 estimate.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 62.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bill Birbeck (613-951-3506), Services Industries Division. ■

Dairy statistics

August and September 2000 (preliminary)

Monthly dairy statistics for August and September are now available.

These data will be included in the July–September 2000 issue of *The dairy review* (23-001-XIB, \$27/\$89; 23-001-XPB, \$36/\$119), which will be released in November. See *How to order products*.

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

Canadian System of Environmental and Resource Accounts

Detailed statistics in physical and monetary units from the natural resource stock accounts, material and energy flow accounts, and environmental protection expenditure accounts are now available. These statistics are part of the Canadian System of Environmental and Resource Accounts.

The publication, *Econnections: Linking the environment and the economy — Indicators and detailed statistics 2000* (16-200-XKE) will be available in December. See *How to order products*.

To obtain statistical tables providing key data, for more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Information Officer and ask for the person responsible for the Canadian System of Environmental and Resource Accounts (613-951-0297; fax: 613-951-0634; environ@statcan.ca), Environment Accounts and Statistics Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Infomat — A weekly review, October 13, 2000
Catalogue number 11-002-XIE (\$3/\$109).

Infomat — A weekly review, October 13, 2000
Catalogue number 11-002-XPE (\$4/\$145).

Steel wire and specified wire products, August 2000
Catalogue number 41-006-XIB (\$5/\$47).

Production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing,
 August 2000
Catalogue number 41-011-XIB (\$5/\$47).

Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins,
 August 2000
Catalogue number 46-002-XIB (\$5/\$47).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Catalogue numbers with an -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB are electronic versions on diskette and -XCD are electronic versions on compact disc.

How to order products

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

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 Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 3, 1997
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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Changes in the mode of taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about six trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was noticeably weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **Help-wanted index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 2
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The Daily, October 13, 2000

RELEASE DATES: OCTOBER 16 TO OCTOBER 20

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

Release date	Titl	Reference period
16	Movie theatres and drive-ins	1998/99
17	Health reports: Teenage pregnancy	Autumn 2000
18	Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	August 2000
19	Wholesale trade	August 2000
19	Canadian international merchandise trade	August 2000
20	Consumer Price Index	September 2000
