

Thursday, October 19, 2000
For release at 8:30 a.m.

## MAJOR RELEASES

- Canadian international merchandise trade, August 2000

Canada's merchandise exports rebounded in August in the wake of higher shipments of passenger cars and aircraft as well as expanding energy exports. The resulting trade surplus of just under $\$ 4.0$ billion was $\$ 96$ million higher than the surplus in July.

- Wholesale trade, August 2000

Following three consecutive monthly increases, wholesale sales fell $0.8 \%$ to $\$ 32.0$ billion dollars in August.
(continued on page 2)


## Canadian economic observer

 October 2000The October issue of Statistics Canada's flagship publication for economic statistics, Canadian economic observer, analyses current economic conditions and summarizes the major economic events that occurred in September. A separate statistical summary contains a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and the major industrial nations.

The October 2000 issue of Canadian economic observer (11-010-XPB, $\$ 23 / \$ 227$ ) is now available. See How to order products. For more information, contact Cyndi Bloskie (613-951-3634; ceo@statcan.ca), Current Economic Analysis Group.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

## Canadian international merchandise trade

August 2000
Canada's merchandise exports rebounded in August in the wake of higher shipments of passenger cars and aircraft as well as expanding energy exports.

Exports rose $1.0 \%$ to $\$ 34.8$ billion in August, recovering from a substantial decline of $\$ 1.4$ billion (revised) in July. At the same time, imports went up $0.8 \%$ to $\$ 30.8$ billion.

The resulting trade surplus of just under $\$ 4.0$ billion was $\$ 96$ million higher than the surplus in July.


Automotive products were the driving force behind exports in August, rising $4.6 \%$ to $\$ 8.1$ billion.

At the same time, energy exports rose $2.6 \%$ to $\$ 4.1$ billion, owing entirely to the impact of higher prices for crude petroleum, natural gas and electricity. Electricity exports alone in August were up 153.5\% over the same month last year, largely because of demand from California.

Canada also imports energy products, but those imports declined 5.2\% in August.

Between January and August, Canadian companies exported $\$ 31.2$ billion in energy, up $72.6 \%$ compared

## Note to readers

Merchandise trade is one component of the current account of Canada's balance of payments, which also includes trade in services.
with the first eight months of 1999, while imported energy products rose $84.8 \%$. For the first eight months of 2000, Canada has a trade surplus in energy of almost $\$ 20$ billion.

## Passenger vehicles and aircraft push exports up

A $\$ 490$-million, or $12.8 \%$, increase in exports of passenger cars pushed automotive product exports up $4.6 \%$ in August. However, this rise was partly offset by a $7.7 \%$ decline in truck exports and a $0.4 \%$ decline in parts.

An increase in aircraft and telecommunication product shipments, mainly semi-conductors, pushed up exports in the machinery and equipment sector by $\$ 346$ million, or $4.0 \%$.

Recent labour disputes in nickel mines resulted in a $\$ 115$-million ( $67.3 \%$ ) decline in exports. Exports of fertilizers declined by $16.7 \%$, the result of lower potash exports to Asia and the United States. Synthetic rubber and plastic exports declined by $5.2 \%$.

Forestry product exports declined for their third consecutive month. Fewer housing starts in the United States since April lowered demand for lumber and pushed lumber exports by $21.3 \%$ between April and August. Exports of other wood products, such as fibreboards and plywood, were also down in August. Wood pulp exports declined $7.5 \%$, but were still $26.2 \%$ higher than in August 1999. However, strong demand for paper in United States maintained the paper export volume and prices, pushing newsprint exports up $0.7 \%$ over July.

## Higher imports of automotive parts pushed imports up

Automotive product imports rose to $\$ 6.7$ billion in August, a $4.6 \%$ increase over July. Increased motor vehicle production resulted in a higher demand for parts, pushing imports up $7.4 \%$. Truck imports recovered from their July losses with a $15.3 \%$ increase. However, passenger car imports dropped $5.1 \%$, following a record high in July.

Imports of computers and parts rose for a sixth consecutive month, up $3.7 \%$ to a record high of $\$ 1.8$ billion. Imports of machinery to manufacture
communications equipment and automotive industry equipment also contributed to the $1.0 \%$ increase in the machinery and equipment sector.

Lower imports of metals, metallic minerals, and metal fabricated basic products pushed imports of industrial goods down $\$ 143$ million, or $2.4 \%$. The values reflect lower volumes, as imported metal prices picked up in August. Part of the reason for the decline is that some importers took advantage of extra ships that were available to increase their supplies in July.

Energy imports dropped $5.2 \%$ in August. This drop is mainly due to a readjustment in crude petroleum and automotive gas imports between July and August. Petroleum companies received large quantities at the end of July to take advantage of the lower crude prices recorded at the end of that month.

## Revisions

Merchandise trade data are generally regularly revised for each month of the current year. Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of import and export documentation, incorrect information on customs forms, replacement of estimates with actual figures (once available), changes in classification of merchandise based on more current information,
and seasonal adjustments. Consult the appropriate CANSIM matrices for revised data.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3618, 3619, 3651, 3685-3713, 3720, 3887-3913, 8430-8435 and 8438-8447.

This release summarizes the merchandise trade data to be published shortly in Canadian international merchandise trade (65-001-XIB, \$14/\$141; $65-001-X P B, \$ 19 / \$ 188)$. The publication will include tables by commodity and country on a customs basis. Current account data, which incorporate merchandise trade statistics, service transactions, investment income and transfers, are available quarterly in Canada's balance of international payments (67-001-XIB, \$29/\$93; 67-001-XPB, \$38/\$124). See How to order products.

Merchandise trade data are available by fax on the morning of release.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jocelyne Elibani, (1-800-294-5583; 613-951-9647), Marketing and Client Service Section, International Trade Division.

## Merchandise trade

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { July } \\ 2000^{r} \end{gathered}$ | Aug. <br> 2000 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { July } \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Aug. } \\ 2000 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Aug. } \\ 1999 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Aug. } \\ 2000 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | Jan. <br> to <br> Aug. <br> 1999 | Jan. <br> to <br> Aug. <br> 2000 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Jan.-Aug. } \\ 1999 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Jan.-Aug. } \\ 2000 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | seasonally adjusted, \$ current |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | \$ millions |  | \% change |  | \$ millions |  | \% change |
| Principal trading partners |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Exports |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| United States | 29,634 | 30,018 | 1.3 | 10.7 | 202,220 | 234,109 | 15.8 |
| Japan | 744 | 774 | 4.0 | 6.3 | 6,145 | 6,483 | 5.5 |
| European Union | 1,751 | 1,714 | -2.1 | 2.8 | 11,904 | 13,848 | 16.3 |
| Other OECD countries ${ }^{1}$ | 707 | 626 | -11.5 | 8.5 | 4,496 | 5,486 | 22.0 |
| All other countries | 1,579 | 1,621 | 2.7 | 23.6 | 10,748 | 12,640 | 17.6 |
| Total | 34,415 | 34,753 | 1.0 | 10.7 | 235,514 | 272,566 | 15.7 |
| Imports |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| United States | 22,278 | 22,605 | 1.5 | 7.6 | 163,797 | 177,162 | 8.2 |
| Japan | 1,001 | 1,024 | 2.3 | 16.4 | 6,792 | 7,785 | 14.6 |
| European Union | 2,784 | 2,803 | 0.7 | 12.8 | 18,214 | 21,880 | 20.1 |
| Other OECD countries ${ }^{1}$ | 1,728 | 1,700 | -1.6 | 36.1 | 8,380 | 12,494 | 49.1 |
| All other countries | 2,736 | 2,638 | -3.6 | 29.7 | 16,154 | 20,430 | 26.5 |
| Total | 30,527 | 30,769 | 0.8 | 11.3 | 213,338 | 239,751 | 12.4 |
| Balance |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| United States | 7,356 | 7,413 | ... | $\ldots$ | 38,423 | 56,947 | $\ldots$ |
| Japan | -257 | -250 | ... | ... | -647 | -1,302 | ... |
| European Union | -1,033 | -1,089 | ... | ... | -6,310 | -8,032 | ... |
| Other OECD countries ${ }^{1}$ | -1,021 | -1,074 | ... | ... | -3,884 | -7,008 | ... |
| All other countries | -1,157 | -1,017 | ... | ... | -5,406 | -7,790 | ... |
| Total | 3,888 | 3,984 | ... | ... | 22,176 | 32,815 | ... |
| Principal commodity groupings |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Exports |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agricultural and fishing products | 2,402 | 2,334 | -2.8 | 10.7 | 16,857 | 18,270 | 8.4 |
| Energy products | 4,035 | 4,141 | 2.6 | 52.6 | 18,059 | 31,167 | 72.6 |
| Forestry products | 3,479 | 3,323 | -4.5 | 0.1 | 25,657 | 27,836 | 8.5 |
| Industrial goods and materials | 5,624 | 5,362 | -4.7 | 8.0 | 37,551 | 42,768 | 13.9 |
| Machinery and equipment | 8,613 | 8,959 | 4.0 | 23.4 | 55,869 | 68,357 | 22.4 |
| Automotive products | 7,761 | 8,115 | 4.6 | -7.1 | 63,326 | 64,698 | 2.2 |
| Other consumer goods | 1,228 | 1,201 | -2.2 | 5.6 | 8,982 | 9,550 | 6.3 |
| Special transactions trade ${ }^{2}$ | 683 | 741 | 8.5 | 19.9 | 4,896 | 5,268 | 7.6 |
| Other balance of payments adjustments | 591 | 577 | -2.4 | 6.1 | 4,313 | 4,653 | 7.9 |
| Imports |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Agricultural and fishing products | 1,516 | 1,576 | 4.0 | 6.5 | 11,699 | 12,106 | 3.5 |
| Energy products | 1,587 | 1,505 | -5.2 | 66.7 | 6,146 | 11,356 | 84.8 |
| Forestry products | 242 | 264 | 9.1 | 13.3 | 1,797 | 2,025 | 12.7 |
| Industrial goods and materials | 5,958 | 5,814 | -2.4 | 12.6 | 40,375 | 46,810 | 15.9 |
| Machinery and equipment | 10,396 | 10,499 | 1.0 | 15.1 | 70,872 | 80,458 | 13.5 |
| Automotive products | 6,398 | 6,690 | 4.6 | 0.5 | 49,991 | 52,224 | 4.5 |
| Other consumer goods | 3,295 | 3,352 | 1.7 | 9.5 | 24,217 | 26,123 | 7.9 |
| Special transactions trade ${ }^{2}$ | 577 | 531 | -8.0 | 3.9 | 4,119 | 4,253 | 3.3 |
| Other balance of payments adjustments | 558 | 538 | -3.6 | 2.3 | 4,126 | 4,400 | 6.6 |

[^0]
## Wholesale trade

August 2000 (preliminary)
Following three consecutive monthly increases, wholesale sales fell $0.8 \%$ to $\$ 32.0$ billion in August. Seven of the 11 trade groups reported diminished sales. Despite August's drop, however, wholesale sales have been on an upward trend since mid-1998.


Wholesalers of apparel and dry goods (-6.4\%), and computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery ( $-3.0 \%$ ) reported notable declines this month. August was the second consecutive monthly drop for wholesalers of apparel and dry goods, having dropped $1.5 \%$ in July. Sales in this sector have been generally declining since the fall of 1999.

This month's drop for wholesalers of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery was the first after four previous consecutive monthly increases. After experiencing overall falling sales during the latter half of 1999, wholesale sales of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery have been generally rising in 2000. This sector's growth has been limited by lower demand for personal computers and a shortage of electronic components; potential factors to this month's decline.

Wholesalers in the other products category also reported a notable fall in sales in August ( $-4.4 \%$ ), nearly wiping out July's $5.9 \%$ gain. Lower wholesale sales in this sector can largely be attributed to weaker sales for agricultural and other farm supplies, such as fertilizers, seeds and feed. Despite August's drop, sales in this sector have mainly been rising since late 1998.

## Some sectors report healthy wholesale sales

Wholesalers in the farm machinery, equipment and supplies sector reported a $5.2 \%$ increase in August, especially wholesalers on the prairies. Wholesale sales in this sector have been generally rising gradually since the start of 2000. This follows a period in which sales in this sector had been cascading downwards since late 1997.

Wholesalers of beverages, drug, and tobacco products also reported a healthy monthly increase in August ( $+2.7 \%$ ). Wholesale sales in this sector have been generally increasing since mid-1998, buoyed by strong demand.

## Decline in wholesale sales touched all regions

Dropping wholesale sales were seen all major regions of Canada in August; at least one province in each region reported declining sales. Wholesalers in Alberta ( $-5.4 \%$ ), New Brunswick ( $-0.8 \%$ ), Ontario $(-0.7 \%)$, and Quebec ( $-0.6 \%$ ) all reported lower sales.

Wholesale sales in Quebec have mainly been rising over the last several years. Wholesalers in New Brunswick and Alberta have enjoyed generally rising sales since late 1998. The important decline observed in August in Alberta can largely be attributed to weaker sales in the food products category, and industrial and household chemicals within the other products category.

Wholesale sales in Ontario have started to moderate in 2000 following the general rise in sales starting in mid-1998. Ontario wholesalers in three sectors industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies; computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery; and apparel and dry goods - have been the main contributors to the recent slowdown.

Wholesale sales in British Columbia were unchanged for the second consecutive month, halting three months of declines. Wholesalers in British Columbia have seen their overall sales declining since the end of 1999, after a year of generally rising sales.

## Inventories grow slightly

Wholesalers increased inventory values by $0.4 \%$ in August to $\$ 42.8$ billion. All sectors saw their inventories increase except for motor vehicles, parts and accessories ( $-2.2 \%$ ), other products ( $-1.6 \%$ ), and farm machinery, equipment and supplies ( -0.7 ). Wholesale inventories have been mostly climbing over the last several years.

The drop in inventory for wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies ( $-0.7 \%$ ) is the
sixth consecutive monthly decline. Inventories have been mainly falling in that sector since the fall of 1998. Wholesalers have been reluctant to increase their inventories in the face of the adversities that plagued this sector in 1998 and 1999.


The inventory-to-sales ratio rose from 1.32 in July to 1.34 in August. The ratio has levelled off since late 1999. Prior to this, the ratio had been dropping for the most part.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 59, 61, and 648-649.
The August 2000 issue of Wholesale trade (63-008-XIB, \$14/\$140) will be available soon. See How to order products.

Wholesale trade estimates for September will be released November 20.

For data or general information, contact the Client Services Unit (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; wholesaleinfo@statcan.ca). To enquire about concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Alexander Hays (613-951-3552; haysale@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

The Daily, October 19, 2000

Wholesale merchants' sales and inventories

|  | Aug. <br> 1999 | $\begin{gathered} \text { May } \\ 2000{ }^{r} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \text { June } \\ & 2000^{r} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { July } \\ 2000^{r} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } \\ & 2000^{p} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { July } \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Aug. } \\ 2000 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Aug. } \\ 1999 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Aug. } \\ 2000 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | seasonally adjusted |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | \$ millions |  |  |  |  | \% change |  |
| Sales, all trade groups | 30,320 | 31,977 | 32,014 | 32,286 | 32,013 | -0.8 | 5.6 |
| Food products | 4,669 | 4,847 | 4,850 | 5,005 | 4,985 | -0.4 | 6.8 |
| Beverage, drug and tobacco products | 1,878 | 2,054 | 2,059 | 2,064 | 2,120 | 2.7 | 12.9 |
| Apparel and dry goods | 545 | 541 | 541 | 532 | 499 | -6.4 | -8.6 |
| Household goods | 832 | 878 | 847 | 841 | 831 | -1.1 | -0.1 |
| Motor vehicles, parts and accessories | 5,925 | 6,175 | 6,217 | 6,039 | 6,078 | 0.6 | 2.6 |
| Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies | 1,988 | 2,101 | 2,097 | 2,052 | 2,027 | -1.2 | 2.0 |
| Lumber and building materials | 2,384 | 2,401 | 2,390 | 2,377 | 2,357 | -0.8 | -1.1 |
| Farm machinery, equipment and supplies | 565 | 616 | 599 | 612 | 644 | 5.2 | 13.9 |
| Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies | 4,433 | 4,970 | 4,998 | 5,057 | 5,063 | 0.1 | 14.2 |
| Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery | 3,149 | 2,942 | 2,977 | 3,006 | 2,915 | -3.0 | -7.4 |
| Other products | 3,951 | 4,453 | 4,439 | 4,701 | 4,494 | -4.4 | 13.7 |
| Sales by province and territory |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Newfoundland | 228 | 226 | 220 | 224 | 227 | 1.0 | -0.7 |
| Prince Edward Island | 54 | 54 | 52 | 54 | 55 | 2.1 | 2.5 |
| Nova Scotia | 559 | 577 | 569 | 578 | 581 | 0.6 | 4.0 |
| New Brunswick | 386 | 413 | 405 | 413 | 410 | -0.8 | 6.2 |
| Quebec | 6,216 | 6,477 | 6,498 | 6,648 | 6,607 | -0.6 | 6.3 |
| Ontario | 15,180 | 16,049 | 16,212 | 16,105 | 15,999 | -0.7 | 5.4 |
| Manitoba | 889 | 901 | 865 | 868 | 910 | 4.9 | 2.4 |
| Saskatchewan | 842 | 925 | 891 | 915 | 916 | 0.1 | 8.7 |
| Alberta | 2,715 | 3,054 | 3,046 | 3,223 | 3,049 | -5.4 | 12.3 |
| British Columbia | 3,226 | 3,277 | 3,231 | 3,232 | 3,233 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Yukon | 9 | 9 | 9 | 11 | 11 | 4.6 | 19.7 |
| Northwest Territories | 13 | 12 | 12 | 14 | 13 | -4.0 | 2.1 |
| Nunavut | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | -6.3 | -17.0 |
| Inventories, all trade groups | 40,559 | 42,277 | 42,686 | 42,652 | 42,806 | 0.4 | 5.5 |
| Food products | 2,761 | 2,833 | 2,899 | 2,882 | 2,890 | 0.3 | 4.7 |
| Beverage, drug and tobacco products | 2,267 | 2,485 | 2,530 | 2,520 | 2,614 | 3.7 | 15.3 |
| Apparel and dry goods | 1,231 | 1,066 | 1,061 | 1,049 | 1,080 | 3.0 | -12.2 |
| Household goods | 1,508 | 1,523 | 1,541 | 1,543 | 1,567 | 1.6 | 3.9 |
| Motor vehicles, parts and accessories | 5,913 | 6,408 | 6,568 | 6,686 | 6,536 | -2.2 | 10.5 |
| Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies | 3,564 | 3,937 | 3,979 | 3,967 | 4,043 | 1.9 | 13.5 |
| Lumber and building materials | 3,861 | 4,004 | 3,958 | 3,971 | 3,986 | 0.4 | 3.2 |
| Farm machinery, equipment and supplies | 2,133 | 1,976 | 1,959 | 1,930 | 1,917 | -0.7 | -10.1 |
| Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies | 9,764 | 10,407 | 10,471 | 10,501 | 10,577 | 0.7 | 8.3 |
| Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery | 2,473 | $2,375$ | 2,399 | 2,279 | $2,356$ | 3.4 | -4.7 |
| Other products | 5,084 | 5,263 | 5,320 | 5,325 | 5,238 | -1.6 | 3.0 |

[^1]
## OTHER RELEASES

## Steel primary forms

Week ending October 14, 2000 (preliminary)
Steel primary forms production for the week ending October 14 totalled 302278 tonnes, down 3.3\% from 312623 tonnes a week earlier and down $3.9 \%$ from 314508 tonnes in the same week of 1999. The year-to-date total at the end of the reference week was 13296125 tonnes, a 4.9\% increase from 12674635 tonnes in the same period of 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.

## Per-capita food consumption 1999

Consumers increased their consumption of fruit and vegetables, oils and fats, and fish during the 1990s, according to new data on the amount of food available for consumption from the food supply.

Each Canadian ate just over 124 kg of fruit in 1999, up from 110.7 kg at the beginning of the decade. Consumers clearly preferred fresh fruit; bananas, apples and oranges topped the list. They also increasingly turned to melons such as watermelons and cantaloupes. In 1999, the consumption of all melons totalled 8.6 kg per person, more than double the level at the start of the decade. In addition, tropical fruits such as guavas, mangoes, kiwis and papayas have become increasingly popular.

Fruit juices continued to play an important role in our diet. Consumption of traditional products such as orange, apple and grape juices was just over 25 litres per person in 1999, up more than 27\% from 1990. Stronger demand for traditional/tropical blended juice products has contributed in some part to this growth.

Canadians ate more vegetables during the 1990s. In 1999, each person consumed an average of 190.5 kg of vegetables (including potatoes), up from 169.9 kg a decade earlier. Consumption of fresh vegetables (excluding potatoes) closed the decade at 69.5 kg per person, up more than $7 \%$ from 1990. Lettuce, carrots, onions, tomatoes and cabbage all remained popular choices.

Major factors contributing to this growth were the increasing use of fresh-cut products, prepackaged salads and other processed products, both in the food
service industry and grocery stores, as well as access to a wider variety of imported produce throughout the year.

Potatoes remained the vegetable of choice for consumers. In 1999, each individual ate on average 77.0 kg of potatoes either in fresh form or as processed products such as french fries, potato chips, instant or frozen mashed potatoes. This sharp 18.5\% jump in consumption from 1990 was due in large part to the expanding popularity of french fries.

By the end of the 1990 s, each Canadian was consuming just over $45 \%$ more oils and fats than at the beginning of the decade. Much of this growth can be attributed to the increasing use of canola, soybean, olive and other specialty oils for use by households and/or food service outlets in salad dressings, deep-fried products and commercially-prepared baked goods.

Fish consumption rebounded in recent years, after dropping to below 8 kg per person in 1995. By the end of the decade each Canadian had consumed 10 kg per person of fish, up from 9 kg per person in 1990.

These increases are due in part to a demand for other sources of protein, marketing and promotional campaigns, the availability of convenient and easy to prepare products for busy consumers and the dietary preferences of a growing Asiatic population in Canada.

Note: These data represent food that is available for consumption and not actual quantities of food consumed in Canada. This is because they do not allow for losses in stores, households, private institutions or restaurants. Consumption patterns of other commodities such as dairy products, beef, pork, poultry and cereal products were released in The Daily on June 15.

## Available on CANSIM: matrices 2259 and 2268-2272.

Historical consumption data from 1985 to 1999 for fruits, vegetables, oils and fats and fish plus detailed information on production, stocks, international trade and supplies used by manufacturers will be available shortly in Food consumption in Canada, part II (32-230-XPB, \$35). See How to order products. This publication (32-230-XIB, \$26) will also be available on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca) in November.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Debbie Dupuis (1-800-465-1991; 613-951-2553; fax: 613-951-3868) or Patricia Chandler (613-951-2506); Agriculture Division.

## Transition from SIC to NAICS Manufacturing industries

Data collected from the Annual Survey of Manufactures (ASM) are now classified according to the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). This classification system replaces the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC); 1997 is the last year for which data are released on a SIC basis.

The NAICS is an industry classification system developed by the statistical agencies of Canada, Mexico and the United States. This new classification is designed to provide common definitions of the industrial structure of the three countries and a common statistical framework to facilitate the analysis and the comparability of the three countries.

The NAICS, like the SIC, has a hierarchical structure. The manufacturing industries are now grouped in 21 subsectors, compared with 22 major groups previously. The numbering system that has been adopted is a six-digit code. The first five digits are used to describe the NAICS levels that will be used by the three countries to produce comparable data. The first two digits designate the sector (the manufacturing sector is 31,32 or 33 ), the third digit designates the subsector, the fourth digit designates the industry group and the fifth digit designates the industries. The sixth digit is used to designate national industries.

Implementation of the NAICS does introduce a break in data time series. To help users to bridge that gap, two sets of data have been prepared. The first set of data comprises the production of data on a NAICS base and the second set are conversion tables, which allow users to bridge over from SIC to NAICS.

The first table allows the users to familiarize themselves with the new classification. This table presents a list of the 21 subsectors belonging to the manufacturing sector and the value of their shipments in 1996. Similar NAICS estimates for 1990 to 1995 are available now. Detailed NAICS data for the entire time period, 1990 to 1998, on a NAICS base will also be available in the next few months on CANSIM (matrices 11615 to 12165) and from the Manufacturing Disclosure and Dissemination Unit.

The second set of data developed to overcome the time-series break is the conversion table. The second table quantifies the significance of each link from an SIC major group to a NAICS sub-sector. The conversion ratios were constructed by assigning a NAICS code to each Annual Survey of Manufactures record and then tabulating the ratios of SIC to NAICS by shipments.

The conversion table covers the entire manufacturing sector and is based on the 1996 reference year. Data for other years would show a somewhat different set of relationships between the two classifications. In addition, because this conversion table is based on recently developed ASM data, the SIC-NAICS relationships may differ slightly from other SIC-NAICS mapping exercises that were done earlier or based on other information.

## Manufacturing shipments

1996

| NAICS code | Description | Manufacturing shipments | Share |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \$ millions |  | \% |
|  | All manufacturing |  |  |
| 31-33 | industries | 400,085 | 100 |
| 311 | Food manufacturing | 48,246 | 12.1 |
|  | Beverage and tobacco |  |  |
| 312 | product manufacturing | 9,610 | 2.4 |
| 313 | Textile mills | 3,483 | 0.9 |
| 314315 | Textile product mills | 2,139 | 0.5 |
|  | Clothing manufacturing Leather and allied | 6,678 | 1.7 |
| 316 | product manufacturing | 943 | 0.2 |
|  | Wood product |  |  |
| 321 | manufacturing | 24,000 | 6.0 |
| 322 | Paper manufacturing | 30,663 | 7.7 |
|  | Printing and related |  |  |
| 323 | support activities | 8,841 | 2.2 |
|  | Petroleum and coal |  |  |
| 324 | products manufacturing | 20,689 | 5.2 |
| 325 | Chemical manufacturing Plastics and rubber | 30,253 | 7.6 |
| 326 | products manufacturing | 15,045 | 3.8 |
|  | Non-metallic mineral |  |  |
| 327 | product manufacturing | 7,852 | 2.0 |
|  | Primary metal |  |  |
| 331 | manufacturing | 26,782 | 6.7 |
|  | Fabricated metal product |  |  |
| 332 | manufacturing | 19,174 | 4.8 |
| 333 | Machinery manufacturing | 19,548 | 4.9 |
|  | Computer and electronic |  |  |
| 334 | product manufacturing | 22,073 | 5.5 |
|  | Electrical equipment, |  |  |
|  | appliance and |  |  |
| 335 | component |  |  |
|  | Transportation equipment | 7,834 | 2.0 |
| 336 | manufacturing | 84,548 | 21.1 |
|  | Furniture and related |  |  |
| 337 | product manufacturing | 6,840 | 1.7 |
|  | Miscellaneous |  |  |
| 339 | manufacturing | 4,843 | 1.2 |

In order to highlight the most significant SIC-NAICS relationships, concording NAICS classes that account for less than $5 \%$ of the value of the SIC class are not shown separately.

An asterisk denoting "part of" appears beside any NAICS codes representing sub-sectors that appear in more than on SIC major group.

A more detailed conversion table (SIC four-digit to NAICS six-digit) will be available soon.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact David Beaulieu (613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

## Conversion from SIC to NAICS, manufacturing industries

1996

| SIC | Industries | NAICS | \% ${ }^{1}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 10 | Food industries | 311 | 99.7 |
|  |  | Other | 0.3 |
| 11 | Beverage industries | $312{ }^{*}$ | 99.5 |
|  |  | Other ${ }^{\text {* }}$ | 0.5 |
| 12 | Tobacco products industries | $312 *$ | 100 |
| 15 | Rubber products industries | 326******** | 95.7 |
|  |  | $322 *$ | 3.4 |
|  |  | Other ${ }^{*}$ | 0.9 |
| 16 | Plastic products industries | 326* | 98.5 |
|  |  | Other | 1.5 |
| 17 | Leather and allied products industries | 316 * | 96.3 |
|  |  | 326 * | 2.2 |
|  |  | Other | 1.5 |
| 18 | Primary textile industries | 313 * | 70.5 |
|  |  | $325 *$ | 27.3 |
|  |  | Other | 2.2 |
| 19 | Textile products industries | 314 | 65.2 |
|  |  | 313 | 24.3 |
|  |  | 322** | 6.6 |
|  |  | $339 *$ | 3.1 |
|  |  | Other | 0.8 |
| 24 | Clothing industries | 315 | 99.2 |
|  |  | Other | 0.8 |
| 25 | Wood industries | 321 * | 94.9 |
|  |  | 337 | 4.4 |
|  |  | Other | 0.7 |
| 26 | Furniture and fixtures industries |  | 95.1 |
|  |  | $339 *$ | 4.5 |
|  |  | Other | 0.4 |
| 27 | Paper and allied products industries |  | 97.1 |
|  |  | 324 | 1.6 |
|  |  | Other | 1.3 |
| 28 | Printing, publishing and allied industries | 323 * | 57.3 |
|  |  | 400* | 42.6 |
|  |  | Other ${ }^{*}$ | 0.1 |
| 29 | Primary metal industries | $331{ }^{*}$ | 99.0 |
|  |  | Other | 1.0 |
|  | Fabricated metal products industries (except machinery |  |  |
| 30 | and transportation equipment industries) | 332** | 76.8 |
|  |  | 333 * | 14.5 |
|  |  | 331*** | 3.5 |
|  |  | $336{ }^{*}$ | 2.9 |
|  |  | $339{ }^{*}$ | 1.6 |
|  |  | Other ${ }^{*}$ | 0.7 |
| 31 | Machinery industries (except electrical machinery) | 333 * | 94.6 |
|  |  | $332 *$ | 2.7 |
|  |  | Other ${ }^{\text {* }}$ | 2.7 |
| 32 | Transportation equipment industries | 336 * | 95.6 |
|  |  | 326 * | 2.1 |
|  |  | Other ${ }^{\text {* }}$ | 2.3 |
| 33 | Electrical and electronic products industries | $334 *$ | 70.0 |
|  |  | 335 | 26.6 |
|  |  | Other | 3.1 0.3 |
| 35 | Non-metallic mineral products industries | 327 | 99.4 |
|  |  | Other ${ }^{\text {* }}$ | 0.6 |
| 36 | Refined petroleum and coal products industries | $324 * *$ | 95.9 |
|  |  | 400 * | 2.7 |
| 37 | Chemical and chemical products industries | $325 *$ | 1.4 98.5 |
|  |  | Other | 1.5 |
| 39 | Other manufacturing industries | 339********* | 49.0 |
|  |  | $334 *$ | 28.5 |
|  |  | 325 * | 6.3 |
|  |  | 337 * | 3.2 |
|  |  | Other | 3.1 9.9 |

[^2]
## Export and import price indexes

August 2000
Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (1992=100) on a balance of payments basis are now available. Price indexes are listed from January 1992 to August 2000 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups ( 62 export groups and 61 import groups).

Current- and fixed-weighted U.S. price indexes (1992=100) are also available on a customs basis. Price indexes are listed from January 1992 to August 2000. Included with the U.S. commodity indexes are the 10 all-countries and U.S.-only standard international trade classification section indexes.

Indexes for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups are also now available on a customs basis.

Available on CANSIM: matrices: 3618, 3619, 3651, 3685, 8430-8435, and 8438-8447.

The August 2000 issue of Canadian international merchandise trade (65-001-XIB, \$14/\$141; $65-001-$ XPB, $\$ 19 / \$ 188$ ) will be available shortly. See How to order products.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jocelyne Elibani (1-800-294-5583; 613-951-9647), International Trade Division.

## Stocks of frozen poultry meat

October 1, 2000 (preliminary)
Data for stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on October 1 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 5675-5677.
For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandra Gielfeldt (613-951-2505) or Gilles Beaudry (613-951-6480), Agriculture Division.

## NEW PRODUCTS

Canadian economic observer, October 2000
Catalogue number 11-010-XPB (\$23/\$227).

Consumer Price Index, September 2000
Catalogue number 62-001-XPB (\$11/\$103). Available at 7 a.m. on Friday, October 20.

## 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.

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[^0]:    r Revised figures
    ... Figures not appropriate or not applicable.
    $\dddot{i}$ Includes Australia, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, Poland, South Korea, Hungary and the Czech Republic.
    2 These are mainly low-valued transactions, value of repairs to equipment, and goods returned to country of origin.

[^1]:    $r$ Revised figures.
    $p$ Preliminary figures.

[^2]:    * The percentage is based on the value of shipments of goods of own manufacture for 1996.

    Denotes "part of."
    Note: SIC denotes Standard Industrial Classification, NAICS denotes North American Industry Classification System.

