

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, November 16, 2000

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Composite Index, October 2000** 2
 The leading indicator grew by 0.7% in October, matching its upward-revised gain in September. The sources of growth remained widespread; 8 of the 10 components advanced, one more than in the previous month.

OTHER RELEASES

- Steel primary forms, week ending November 11, 2000 3
- Oils and fats, September 2000 3

NEW PRODUCTS



Canadian economic observer

November 2000

The November issue of Statistics Canada's flagship publication for economic statistics, *Canadian economic observer*, analyses current economic conditions, summarizes the major economic events that occurred in October and presents a feature article on new hirings and permanent separations. 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 November 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.



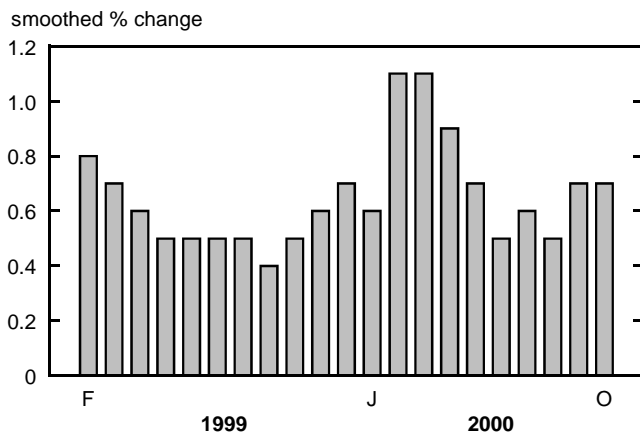
MAJOR RELEASES

Composite Index

October 2000

The leading indicator grew by 0.7% in October, matching its upward-revised gain in September. The sources of growth remained widespread; with 8 of the 10 components advanced, one more than in the previous month.

Composite Index



Household demand continued its expansion, particularly for housing. Housing starts posted a second straight gain, continuing its recovery from strikes. Housing sales were reinforced by solid job growth at the end of summer. Growth in demand for durable goods slowed to 0.9%, after a 1.4% gain in September.

Firms also continued to contribute to overall growth. Employment in business services remained the driving force behind the gains in total services, which matched September's 0.7% increase. Since August, employment in this sector has expanded by 40,000 persons. Rising demand for labour also was reflected in a longer work week in manufacturing, up 0.5% in October for its third straight increase.

The U.S. leading indicator continued to slip marginally, while the recent dip in the stock market started to slow overall growth.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 193.

For further information on the economy, the November 2000 issue of *Canadian economic observer* (11-010-XPB, \$23/\$227) 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 Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Economic Analysis Group.

Composite Index

	May 2000	June 2000	July 2000	Aug. 2000	Sept. 2000	Oct. 2000	Last month of data available % change
Composite leading indicator (1992=100)	162.6	163.4	164.4	165.2	166.4	167.6	0.7
Housing index (1992=100) ¹	100.5	99.6	99.3	97.4	97.6	99.9	2.4
Business and personal services employment ('000)	2,397	2,407	2,421	2,431	2,449	2,466	0.7
TSE 300 stock price index (1975=1,000)	9,134	9,477	9,733	10,090	10,296	10,373	0.7
Money supply, M1 (\$ millions, 1992) ²	88,499	89,663	90,617	91,306	91,193	91,876	0.7
U.S. Composite Leading Indicator (1992=100) ³	108.5	108.5	108.4	108.4	108.3	108.2	-0.1
Manufacturing							
Average work week (hours)	38.9	38.9	38.9	39.0	39.1	39.3	0.5
New orders, durables (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	22,217	22,132	22,250	22,569	23,150	23,269	0.5
Shipments/inventories of finished goods ⁴	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	1.92	0.00 ⁵
Retail trade							
Furniture and appliance sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	1,452	1,472	1,486	1,490	1,506	1,511	0.3
Other durable goods sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	6,812	6,839	6,845	6,853	6,950	7,012	0.9
Unsmoothed composite	163.8	164.4	167.3	168.0	168.4	169.9	0.9

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 primary forms

Week ending November 11, 2000 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending November 11 totalled 307 130 tonnes, up 11.0% from 276 714 tonnes a week earlier and down 3.2% from 317 251 tonnes in the same week of 1999. The year-to-date total at the end of the reference week was 14 504 119 tonnes, a 4.7% increase compared with 13 852 481 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. ■

Oils and fats

September 2000

Production of all types of deodorized oils totalled 105 523 tonnes in September, an increase of 8.4% from 97 330 tonnes in August. Year-to date production for September was 854 045 tonnes, up 4.0% from the 820 894 tonnes produced in the same period of 1999.

September domestic sales of deodorized margarine oil totalled 10 309 tonnes; deodorized shortening oil sales were 29 418 tonnes; and deodorized salad oil sales were 33 932 tonnes.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 185.

The September 2000 issue of *Oils and fats* (32-006-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 Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511; zylspet@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

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

Oils and fats, September 2000
Catalogue number 32-006-XIB (\$5/\$47).

Retail trade, August 2000
Catalogue number 63-005-XIB (\$16/\$155).

Service bulletin: Science statistics, The provincial
research organizations, 1998, Vol. 24, no. 4
Catalogue number 88-001-XIB (\$6/\$59).

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MAJOR RELEASES



- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Changes in the number of people taking urban transit, Canadians are riding it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of 800 out of 5 ps 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 relatively weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- **Harbour Index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 2
- **Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997** 12
- **Egg production, April 1997** 12

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

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