

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, December 18, 2000

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, October 2000** 2
Manufacturing shipments increased by 1.7% in October, led by a rebound in the electrical and electronic products and aircraft and parts industries.
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NEW PRODUCTS



MAJOR RELEASES

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing

October 2000

Manufacturing shipments increased by 1.7% in October, led by a rebound in the electrical and electronic products and aircraft and parts industries. The increase brought the value of shipments to \$45.5 billion.

The increase in shipments was spread out over 15 of the 22 major groups in October, representing 78.9% of total shipments. Seven provinces and the territories saw higher shipments in October. However, the trend in manufacturers' shipments has been showing signs of deceleration since the summer of 1999.

Electronics and aircraft shipments back up

Companies in the electrical and electronic products industry shipped \$4.4 billion of goods in October, up 5.5% from September. The increase was concentrated in the telecommunications industry and in the electronic parts and components industry, and followed a significant decline in September. Industry shipments for the first 10 months of 2000 have already exceeded the 1999 annual total of \$36.8 billion.

Note to readers

Unfilled orders are a stock of orders, which will contribute to future shipments assuming that the orders are not cancelled.

New orders represent orders received, whether shipped in the current month or not. They are measured as the sum of shipments for the current month plus the change in unfilled orders. Some people interpret new orders as orders that will lead to future demand. This is inappropriate since the "new orders" variable includes orders that have already been shipped. Users should be aware that the month-to-month change in new orders may be volatile, particularly if the previous month's change in unfilled orders is large in relation to the current month's change.

Not all orders will be translated into Canadian factory shipments because portions of large contracts can be subcontracted out to manufacturers in other countries.

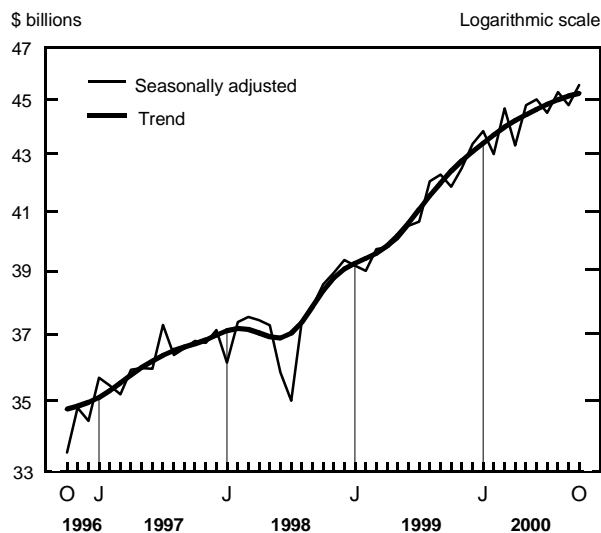
The aircraft and parts industry also contributed strongly to October's rise in shipments, with an increase of 17.6%. Manufacturers recorded shipments totalling \$1.6 billion in October, the highest level ever observed in this industry. The increase coincided with a 0.7% decrease in unfilled orders for this segment of the transportation industry.

Reports of higher manufacturing shipments in the transportation equipment and electrical and electronic products industries were consistent with recently released data on industrial capacity utilization rates. The report cited both industries as being primarily responsible for an increase in manufacturers' rate of capacity use, to 87.5% during the third quarter. This represents the highest capacity use rate in more than 25 years.

Higher shipments were also seen in the refined petroleum and coal products industry, where increases in volume and higher prices brought shipments up by 4.6%. October's Industrial Products Price Index revealed a 1.2% rise in the price of petroleum and coal products.

The primary offsetting decrease in shipments was in the machinery industry, where the completion of major contracts in September left October's shipments down 4.5%.

October shipments rebound



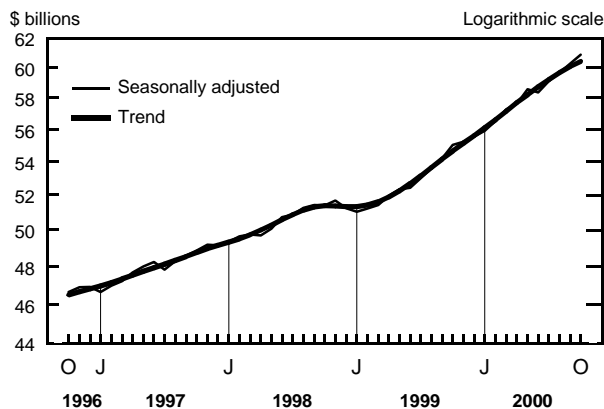
Shipments by province and the territories

	Sept. 2000	Oct. 2000	Sept. to Oct. 2000
seasonally adjusted			
	\$ millions		% change
Newfoundland	176	179	1.5
Prince Edward Island	82	79	-4.4
Nova Scotia	706	662	-6.2
New Brunswick	875	885	1.2
Quebec	10,812	11,331	4.8
Ontario	24,066	24,132	0.3
Manitoba	888	907	2.1
Saskatchewan	591	619	4.8
Alberta	3,473	3,635	4.7
British Columbia	3,121	3,108	-0.4
Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut	4	5	12.4

Inventories continue to climb

Manufacturers' inventories rose 1.0% in October to \$60.9 billion, continuing the trend of increasing inventories that began in February 1999. October's increase was largely in the goods in process inventories (+2.2%), similar to that observed in the previous three months.

Inventories continue to climb

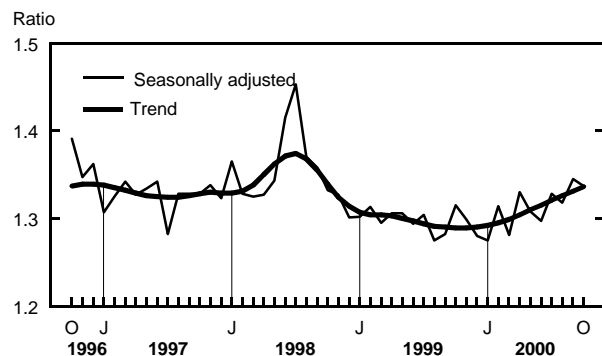


The main contributors to the increase were electrical and electronic products (+6.2%) and aircraft and parts (+4.8%), as manufacturers in both industries worked to complete existing orders. In addition, manufacturers in these sectors were accumulating raw materials in preparation for upcoming contracts.

The major offsetting movements occurred in refined petroleum and coal products (-7.5%) and the railroad rolling stock (-3.6%) industries.

The inventory-to-shipments ratio eased modestly to 1.34 in October, from September's 1.35. The lower ratio was the result of increased shipments, which outpaced the increase in inventories for the month. The trend in the inventory-to-shipments ratio continued to move upwards, after remaining stable for two months. The trend has been rising gradually over the past 12 months.

Inventory-to-shipments ratio eased slightly

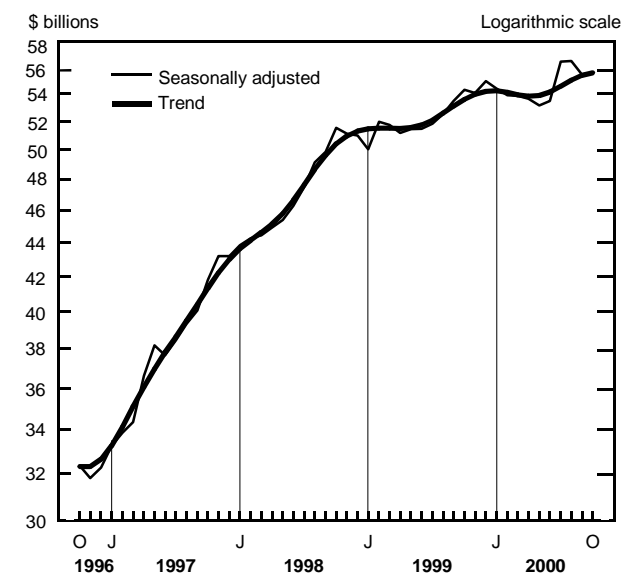


Unfilled orders edge up as new orders jump

Following September's decline, manufacturers' unfilled orders increased 0.2% and stood at \$55.6 billion in October. Modest gains were observed in the machinery industry (+1.8%) and the transportation equipment industry (+0.3%).

A significant offsetting movement occurred in the fabricated metal products industry, where unfilled orders dropped 2.9%.

Unfilled orders edged up



New orders climbed 4.3% in October, owing in large part to the transportation industry and in particular the aircraft and parts industry. The electrical and electronic products industry also contributed to the higher level of orders. At \$45.7 billion, October's new orders remained just \$1.8 billion below July's record level.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9550-9555, 9558, 9559, 9562-9565, 9568-9579 and 9581-9595.

The October 2000 issue of the *Monthly survey of manufacturing* (31-001-XPB, \$20/\$196) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

Data for shipments by province in greater detail than normally published may be available on request. For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Guy Sabourin (613-951-3508; sabguy@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Shipments, inventories and orders in all manufacturing industries

	Shipments		Inventories		Unfilled orders		New orders		Inventories to shipments ratio
	seasonally adjusted								
	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	
October 1999	41,839	-1.0	54,998	1.5	54,288	1.5	42,658	-1.3	1.31
November 1999	42,491	1.6	55,200	0.4	54,071	-0.4	42,274	-0.9	1.30
December 1999	43,359	2.0	55,520	0.6	54,938	1.6	44,227	4.6	1.28
January 2000	43,834	1.1	55,876	0.6	54,393	-1.0	43,288	-2.1	1.27
February 2000	43,003	-1.9	56,516	1.1	53,889	-0.9	42,500	-1.8	1.31
March 2000	44,666	3.9	57,238	1.3	53,844	-0.1	44,620	5.0	1.28
April 2000	43,310	-3.0	57,597	0.6	53,629	-0.4	43,096	-3.4	1.33
May 2000	44,776	3.4	58,562	1.7	53,135	-0.9	44,282	2.8	1.31
June 2000	45,002	0.5	58,347	-0.4	53,470	0.6	45,336	2.4	1.30
July 2000	44,497	-1.1	59,095	1.3	56,452	5.6	47,479	4.7	1.33
August 2000	45,282	1.8	59,671	1.0	56,495	0.1	45,326	-4.5	1.32
September 2000	44,794	-1.1	60,268	1.0	55,457	-1.8	43,756	-3.5	1.35
October 2000	45,542	1.7	60,871	1.0	55,568	0.2	45,653	4.3	1.34

Manufacturing industries except motor vehicle, parts and accessories

	Shipments		Inventories		Unfilled orders		New orders	
			seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change
October 1999	33,085	-0.1	51,754	1.0	46,922	1.6	33,832	1.4
November 1999	33,827	2.2	52,079	0.6	47,207	0.6	34,113	0.8
December 1999	34,391	1.7	52,402	0.6	48,602	3.0	35,786	4.9
January 2000	34,985	1.7	52,776	0.7	48,735	0.3	35,118	-1.9
February 2000	34,584	-1.1	53,384	1.2	48,924	0.4	34,774	-1.0
March 2000	35,773	3.4	54,047	1.2	49,565	1.3	36,413	4.7
April 2000	34,991	-2.2	54,523	0.9	49,006	-1.1	34,432	-5.4
May 2000	36,023	3.0	55,376	1.6	48,670	-0.7	35,687	3.6
June 2000	36,182	0.4	55,180	-0.4	49,240	1.2	36,753	3.0
July 2000	35,997	-0.5	55,881	1.3	52,077	5.8	38,834	5.7
August 2000	36,598	1.7	56,302	0.8	52,540	0.9	37,061	-4.6
September 2000	36,115	-1.3	56,889	1.0	51,706	-1.6	35,281	-4.8
October 2000	36,873	2.1	57,468	1.0	52,120	0.8	37,287	5.7



OTHER RELEASES

Public sector employment

Third quarter 2000 (preliminary)

Just over 2.7 million people on average were employed in the public sector during the third quarter, up 0.7%, or 19,250 workers, from the third quarter of 1999.

The majority of this increase, about 14,300 employees, occurred among governments employees; the remainder of the increase occurred in government business enterprises, such as crown corporations. Increases in provincial/territorial and federal work forces more than offset a decline in local government employment. On a year-over-year basis, governments' work force went up on average 0.6% compared with the third quarter of 1999 to 2.5 million.

More than 80% of the increase in governments employment was attributable to provincial/territorial governments. This work force increased to 1.3 million in the third quarter, up 12,000, or 0.9% more than in the third quarter of 1999. Employment in health and social services, as well as in Alberta colleges and universities, were largely responsible for the increase.

Federal government employment also advanced for a fifth quarter in a row. During the quarter, the federal government employed on average 341,400 workers, an increase of 2.3% over the third quarter of 1999. Overall, increases in general administration employment more than offset reductions in the military; federal employment

in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba reported the largest growth.

Local governments employed about 802,700 people in the third quarter, down almost 5,400 employees, or 0.7%, from the third quarter of 1999. Municipal general governments and school boards in Quebec were the main factors behind the decline.

Employment in government business enterprises also went up from the third quarter of 1999 to 273,100, an increase of 1.9% or almost 5,000 workers. Work force increases in provincial/territorial government enterprises were essentially responsible for the rise, because of increased activity in the amusement and recreation industries in Ontario earlier this year.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2720, 2860, 2863, 2864 and 2866.

Other public sector employment and wages and salaries data are also available on CANSIM. For general information on the Public Institutions Division's products and services, or to obtain custom tabulations, contact Lisa McCambley, (613-951-0767; fax: 613-951-0661; lisa.mccambley@stcinet.statcan.ca).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Alain Paquet (613-951-8565; paquala@statcan.ca), Public Institutions Division. □

Public sector employment

Third quarter 2000 (preliminary)

	Federal government	Provincial and territorial governments	Local governments	Total government	Government business enterprises	Total public sector ¹	Third quarter 1999 to third quarter 2000 % change
Canada	341,381	1,309,156	802,649	2,453,185	273,106	2,726,291	0.7
Newfoundland	7,072	31,860	13,064	51,996	3,616	55,612	-2.1
Prince Edward Island	3,398	9,589	2,201	15,188	482	15,670	0.7
Nova Scotia	23,322	46,879	20,891	91,092	6,325	97,417	-1.8
New Brunswick	13,737	53,416	7,669	74,821	7,325	82,147	-0.8
Quebec	68,416	373,544	177,401	619,361	66,671	686,032	-1.0
Ontario	135,334	358,526	335,896	829,756	111,106	940,862	1.3
Manitoba	15,684	65,630	32,402	113,717	13,577	127,294	2.1
Saskatchewan	9,480	56,487	30,758	96,725	13,227	109,952	1.6
Alberta	25,180	131,872	85,107	242,159	15,964	258,124	2.9
British Columbia	34,408	169,873	93,446	297,727	34,142	331,869	1.3
Yukon Territory	909	3,311	340	4,560	x	4,560	-0.8
Northwest Territories	1,091	4,672	1,857	7,620	x	7,620	1.2
Nunavut	140	3,497	1,616	5,252	x	5,252	35.2
Exterior	3,210	0	0	3,210	x	3,210	4.1

^x Confidential data.

¹ To preserve confidentiality, data for the territories and outside Canada exclude government public enterprises.

Note: Federal government includes the military. Provincial and territorial governments includes provincial and territorial general government, universities and colleges and health and social services institutions. Local government includes general government and school boards. Canada total may differ from the sum of provinces/territories because of number rounding.

Earnings disparities among the provinces 1998

Ontario workers earned more on average than did those in any other province in 1998, according to a new study based on data from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics.

The study is an attempt to quantify the magnitude of economic disparity among the provinces, using Ontario as a benchmark with which all other provinces are compared.

The study defines the average annual earnings of a province as a product of three components: average hourly wage rate, average weekly hours and average weeks worked in a year. It uses standardization and decomposition techniques to find the sources of differences in earnings.

In most cases, the principal reason for the disparity in earnings between Ontario and any other province was lower hourly wage rates; lower average hours per week was a secondary reason. The number of weeks worked each year did not contribute significantly to the disparity.

Data showed that the disparity in earnings was smallest between Ontario and British Columbia, and largest between Ontario and Prince Edward Island.

Workers in British Columbia had slightly lower average annual earnings than those in Ontario, even though British Columbia's hourly wage rates were on average higher than in Ontario. This disparity occurred

because workers in British Columbia worked on average fewer hours each week and fewer weeks each year.

The difference in annual average earnings between Ontario workers and those in Prince Edward Island was more than \$11,000, about three-quarters of which was owing to the disparity in average hourly wages between the two provinces.

The study, *Sources of differences in provincial earnings in Canada* (75F0002MIE, free) is now available on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca). From the *Products and services* page, choose *Research papers (free)*, then *Personal finance and household finance*, then *Income research paper series*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (1-888-297-7355; 613-951-7355; income@statcan.ca), Income Statistics Division.

Therapeutic abortions 1998

Canadian women obtained 110,331 abortions in 1998, a 1.2% decrease from 111,709 a year earlier.

Two-thirds of all therapeutic abortions in 1998 were performed in hospitals, and the remaining one-third took place in clinics. Canadian women obtained 297 therapeutic abortions in the United States in 1998, virtually unchanged from 1997.

The number obtaining abortions in the United States has declined significantly since the 1988 Supreme Court decision that struck down the 1969 abortion law. In 1987, 2,757 Canadian women obtained abortions in the United States.

Therapeutic abortions were most common among women in their twenties, who accounted for half of all women who obtained abortions in 1998. On average, 27 women out of every 1,000 in their twenties obtained an abortion.

The number of abortions declined in 1998 in seven provinces and territories: Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Ontario, Manitoba, British Columbia and the Northwest Territories.

Therapeutic abortion data for 1998 were collected by the Canadian Institute for Health Information. Selected tables are available in *Canadian Statistics*. For more information on the therapeutic abortions database, contact Judy Lee (416-481-2002, extension 3407; fax: 416-481-2950), Canadian Institute for Health Information.

For information on long-term trends in therapeutic abortions or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Paula Woollam (613-951-0879) or Richard Trudeau (613-951-8782), Health Statistics Division, Statistics Canada.

Therapeutic abortions, by province of residence, and rates per 1,000 female population

	1996 ¹	1997 ¹	1998	1997 to 1998	1997	1998
	number of abortions			% change	rate per 1,000 population ²	
Total	111,659	111,709	110,331	-1.23	16.34	16.13
Newfoundland	846	837	820	-2.03	6.33	6.38
Prince Edward Island	190	150	149	-0.67	4.97	4.95
Nova Scotia	2,039	2,045	2,053	0.39	9.64	9.74
New Brunswick	1,120	1,113	1,106	-0.63	6.48	6.51
Quebec	28,852	30,248	31,673	4.71	18.36	19.38
Ontario	46,918	44,046	42,452	-3.62	17.12	16.43
Manitoba	3,647	3,626	3,447	-4.94	14.63	14.00
Saskatchewan	1,926	1,996	2,010	0.70	9.08	9.13
Alberta	9,265	10,337	10,355	0.17	15.38	15.10
British Columbia	15,689	15,582	15,482	-0.64	17.20	17.08
Yukon	172	121	150	23.97	14.95	19.17
Northwest Territories	297	317	292	-7.89	19.29	18.00
U.S. reporting ³	301	293	297	1.37
Residence unknown	397	998	45	-95.49

¹ Revised figures for 1996 and 1997.

² Rates are calculated using female population aged 15 to 44.

³ Includes legal abortions on Canadian residents performed in the United States.

... Figures not appropriate or not applicable

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard

October 2000

Oriented strandboard production in October totalled 690 264 cubic metres, up 2.6% from 672 697 cubic metres in October 1999. Particleboard production reached 243 724 cubic metres, an increase of 15.5% from 210 926 cubic metres in October 1999. Fibreboard production totalled 83 201 cubic metres, down 12.9% from 95 555 cubic metres in October 1999.

From January to October, oriented strandboard production totalled 6 528 443 cubic metres, a 1.3% increase from 6 445 027 cubic metres in the same period of 1999. Particleboard production reached 2 124 344 cubic metres, up 4.5% from 2 033 483 cubic metres

compared with the same period in 1999. Year-to-date fibreboard production reached 865 438 cubic metres, up 0.3% from 863 087 cubic metres during the same period of 1999.

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

The October 2000 issue of *Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard* (36-003-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 Sara Breen (613-951-3521; sara.breen@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division

Construction Union Wage Rate Index

November 2000

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada was 117.8 (1992=100) in November, up 0.3% from October. The composite index increased 2.4% compared with the revised November 1999 index.

Union wage rates are published for 16 trades in 20 metropolitan areas for both the basic rates and rates including selected supplementary payments. Indexes (1992=100) are calculated for the same metropolitan areas, and are published for those where a majority of trades are covered by current collective agreements.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 956, 958 and 9922-9927.

The third quarter 2000 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79) will be available in December. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Denise Potvin (613-951-3350; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca), Prices Division. ■

Annual Survey of Manufacturers

1998

The Annual Survey of Manufacturers has adopted the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) for its 1998 reference year. Previous years' data have been re-aggregated to the new classification system back to 1990. Information on more than 250 different industries will be provided. Principal statistics for each industry are released on CANSIM as they become available. Data for the industries listed in the following table are now available for Canada. Data for 232 industries have now been released.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 11959, 11960, 11963, 11966-11968, 11970, 11971, 11974, 11976, 11978, 11979, 11982, 11985, 11986, 11989, 11991, 11994, 11997, 11999, 12000, 12133, 12135-12138, 12141-12143, 12146 and 12148.

Data for the industries listed in the table will appear in *Manufacturing industries of Canada: National and provincial areas* (31-203-XPB, \$68). The 1998 issue of this publication will be available soon. See *How to order products*. Industry review papers are accessible on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca). From the *Products and services* page, choose *Research papers (free)*, then *Manufacturing*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, call David Beaulieu (613-951-9497, fax: 613-951-9499; manufact@statcan.ca). □

Value of shipments

	NAICS	1997	1998	1997 to 1998
		\$ millions		% change
Wood kitchen cabinet and counter top manufacturing	337110	1,267.7	1,446.5	14.1
Household and institutional furniture manufacturing	337121	689.6	766.9	11.2
Household furniture manufacturing	337123	1,385.9	1,549.1	11.7
Household furniture (except wood and upholstered) manufacturing	337126	173.2	152.3	-12.1
Institutional furniture manufacturing	337127	610.9	687.8	12.6
Wood office furniture, including custom architectural woodwork manufacturing	337213	824.5	1,004.5	21.8
Office furniture (except wood) manufacturing	337214	1,206.6	1,311.8	8.7
Showcase, partition, shelving and locker manufacturing	337215	982.8	1,252.3	27.4
Mattress manufacturing	337910	531.0	582.1	9.6
Blind and shade manufacturing	337920	219.9	259.4	17.9
Forging	332113	838.2	779.5	-7.1
Stamping	332118	1,100.2	881.8	-19.9
Cutlery and hand tool manufacturing	332210	354.1	383.9	8.4
Prefabricated metal building and component manufacturing	332311	512.8	578.7	12.8
Concrete reinforcing bar manufacturing	332314	238.9	284.7	19.1
Other plate work and fabricated structural product manufacturing	332319	2,224.6	2,769.0	24.4
Metal window and door manufacturing	332321	1,295.2	1,399.1	8.0
Other ornamental and architectural products manufacturing	332329	1,991.9	2,095.0	5.1
Power boiler and heat exchanger manufacturing	332410	690.7	747.1	8.1
Metal tank (heavy gauge) manufacturing	332420	641.5	685.1	6.7
Metal can manufacturing	332431	1,314.1	1,217.8	-7.4
Other metal container manufacturing	332439	340.9	522.2	53.1
Hardware manufacturing	332510	1,375.5	1,488.1	8.1
Spring (heavy gauge) manufacturing	332611	465.5	499.0	7.1
Other fabricated wire product manufacturing	332619	719.4	790.0	9.8
Machine shops	332710	1,841.5	2,264.3	23.0
Turned product and screw, nut and bolt manufacturing	332720	821.7	836.8	1.8
Coating, engraving, heat treating and allied activities	332810	1,663.7	1,875.4	12.7
Metal valve manufacturing	332910	810.2	913.8	12.7
Ball and roller bearing manufacturing	332991	411.1	456.6	11.0
All other miscellaneous fabricated metal product manufacturing	332999	1,429.8	1,382.6	-3.3

Canadian Travel Survey: Suspension of publication 2000

Statistics Canada is suspending publication of data from the Canadian Travel Survey (CTS) for about nine months, pending an assessment of the way in which the data is collected.

Full publication of the CTS results will resume in the third quarter of 2001, including, if necessary, revised time series.

In the meantime, quarterly results from the CTS will be released on a preliminary basis through brief announcements in *The Daily*.

The CTS, conducted as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey, measures the volume of domestic travel, characteristics of domestic travellers and the amount of money they spend.

For more information, contact Bradford Ruth (613-951-6433; brad.ruth@statcan.ca), or Jocelyn Lapierre (613-951-3720; jocelyn.lapierre@statcan.ca), Tourism Statistics Program.

NEW PRODUCTS

Farm financial survey, 2000
Catalogue number 21F0008XIB
(Free).

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard,
October 2000
Catalogue number 36-003-XIB (\$5/\$47).

Exports by country, January–September 2000
Catalogue number 65-003-XMB (\$62/\$206).

Exports by country, January–September 2000
Catalogue number 65-003-XPB (\$124/\$412).

Sources of differences in provincial earnings in
Canada, 1998
Catalogue number 75F0002MIE
(Free).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales
tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery
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Catalogue 11-001E (If possible, 11-001E/11-001E/001-001E)



Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 3, 1997
For release at 9:30 a.m.



MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian rode an average of about 40 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was initially weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

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