



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, February 7, 2000

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

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OTHER RELEASES

Domestic sales of refined petroleum products

Annual 1999 and December 1999 (preliminary)

Overall sales of refined petroleum products in 1999 increased 1.3% over 1998. Sales rose for five of the seven major product groups. The advance for motor gasoline (+1 052 500 cubic metres or +2.8%) was mainly due to an increase in the number of vehicles, favourable weather throughout the year, and low retail prices during the first half of 1999. The gain for diesel (+760 200 cubic metres or +3.5%), which is mainly used for road transport, also contributed to the overall increase. The increase for light fuel oil (+184 600 cubic metres or +3.9%) was mostly due to greater use of the product for heating in the first five months of the year. These three products accounted for 70.0% of total sales. The decline for heavy fuel oil (-982 400 cubic metres or -11.5%) was due to greater use of natural gas in place of heavy fuel oil by the industrial sector.

Sales of refined petroleum products totalled 8 067 200 cubic metres in December 1999, up 2.9% from December 1998. Sales increased for five of the seven major product groups over the same period in 1998, with the largest gains recorded for diesel fuel oil (+137 700 cubic metres or +8.1%) and motor gasoline (+134 900 cubic metres or +4.2%). Sales of heavy fuel oil dropped 152 900 cubic metres (-16.9%) compared with December 1998.

Sales of refined petroleum products

	Dec. ^r 1998	Dec. ^p 1999	Dec. 1998 to Dec. 1999
	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Total, All products	7 839.6	8 067.2	2.9
Motor gasoline	3 204.1	3 339.0	4.2
Diesel fuel oil	1 698.3	1 836.0	8.1
Light fuel oil	671.4	592.0	-11.8
Heavy fuel oil	904.5	751.6	-16.9
Aviation turbo fuels	404.2	471.1	16.5
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	408.1	452.6	10.9
All other refined products	548.9	624.9	13.8

	Jan. 1998 to Dec. 1998 ^r	Jan. 1999 to Dec. 1999 ^p	Jan.-Dec. 1998 to Jan.-Dec. 1999
Total, All products	92 420.6	93 604.3	1.3
Motor gasoline	37 365.3	38 417.8	2.8
Diesel fuel oil	21 462.1	22 222.3	3.5
Light fuel oil	4 715.3	4 899.9	3.9
Heavy fuel oil	8 519.2	7 536.8	-11.5
Aviation turbo fuels	5 957.6	6 209.6	4.2
Petrochemical feedstocks ¹	4 826.1	5 025.5	4.1
All other refined products	9 575.0	9 292.4	-3.0

^r Revised data.

^p Preliminary data.

¹ Materials produced by refineries that are used by the petrochemical industry to produce chemicals, synthetic rubber and a variety of plastics.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 628-642 and 644-647.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Eleonore Harding (613-951-5708; hardele@statcan.ca) or Michel Palardy (613-951-7174; palamic@statcan.ca), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Non-residential building construction price indexes

Fourth quarter 1999

In the fourth quarter of 1999, the composite price index for non-residential building construction (1992=100) stood at 115.4, up 0.6% over the previous quarter and up 2.1% from the same quarter in 1998.

The index for Montreal increased 1.9% from the third quarter of 1999, followed by Calgary (+0.6%), Edmonton (+0.5%), Toronto and Ottawa (+0.4%), Vancouver (+0.3%) and Halifax (+0.2%).

Montreal also had the highest year-over-year change (+3.2%) compared with the fourth quarter of 1998. Of the other urban areas surveyed, Toronto registered a 2.6% annual gain, followed by Ottawa and Calgary (+2.3%), Edmonton (+1.9%) and Halifax (+1.5%). Vancouver registered the lowest year-over-year change (+1.0%).

Non-residential building construction price indexes (1992=100)

	Fourth quarter 1999	Fourth quarter 1998 to Fourth quarter 1999 % change	Third to fourth quarter 1999
Composite	115.4	2.1	0.6
Halifax	106.8	1.5	0.2
Montreal	114.1	3.2	1.9
Ottawa	114.3	2.3	0.4
Toronto	116.7	2.6	0.4
Calgary	116.3	2.3	0.6
Edmonton	115.6	1.9	0.5
Vancouver	116.3	1.0	0.3

Note: Non-residential building construction price indexes provide an indication of changes in construction costs in seven major urban areas: Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver. Three construction categories (industrial, commercial and institutional buildings) are represented by selected

models (a light factory building, an office building, a warehouse, a shopping centre and a school).

Besides the major urban areas and composites indexes, a further breakdown of the cost changes is available by trade group within the building types (structural, architectural, mechanical and electrical). These price indexes are derived from surveys of general and special trade group contractors. They report data on various categories of costs (material, labour, equipment, taxes, overhead and profit) relevant to the detailed construction specifications included in the surveys.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 9930 and 9931.

The fourth quarter 1999 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79) will be available in March. See *How to order publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Louise Chagné (613-951-3350; fax: 613-951-1539; chailou@statcan.ca), Client Services Unit, Prices Division. ■

Railway carloadings

Seven-day period ending January 21, 2000

Non-intermodal traffic loaded during the seven-day period ending January 21, 2000 increased 1.4% to 4.4 million tonnes compared with the same period in 1999. The number of cars loaded increased 2.9%.

Intermodal traffic tonnage totalled 380 000 tonnes, a 23.9% increase from the same period in 1999. The year-to-date figures increased 21.3%.

Total traffic increased 2.9% during the reference period. This brought the year-to-date total to 13.5 million tonnes, an increase of 9.4% from the previous year.

All year-to-date figures have been revised.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0009; laroque@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Coal and coke statistics, November 1999
Catalogue number 45-002-XPB
(Canada: \$12/\$114; outside Canada: US\$12/US\$114).

Electric power statistics, November 1999
Catalogue number 57-001-XIB
(Canada: \$9/\$85).

Exports by commodity, November 1999
Catalogue number 65-004-XPB
(Canada: \$78/\$773; outside Canada: US\$78/US\$773).

All prices exclude sales tax.

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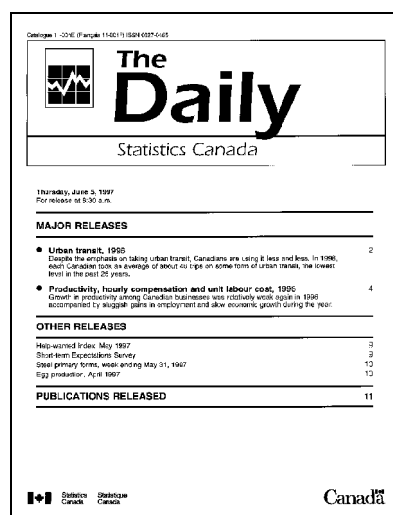
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