

The Daily

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MAJOR RELEASES

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The leading indicator grew by 1.0% in February, after gaining 0.6%, revised upwards, in January. February's rise is slightly above the average for the past 12 months. The upturn in February was led by housing, following the substantial improvement in the labour market at the turn of the year.

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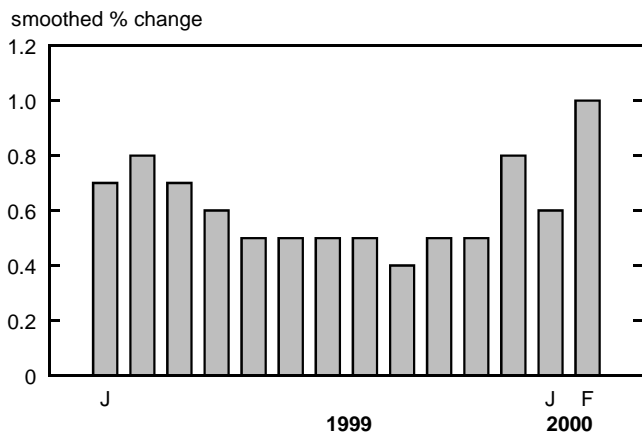
MAJOR RELEASES

Composite Index

February 2000

The leading indicator grew by 1.0% in February, after gaining 0.6%, revised upwards, in January. February's rise is slightly above the average for the past 12 months. The upturn in February was led by housing, following the substantial improvement in the labour market at the turn of the year.

Composite Index



The housing index decisively ended four straight months of decline. Housing starts jumped to their highest level since May 1992, as the volatile multiple units component regained all the ground it lost in January. Existing home sales also firmed after several sluggish months. Sales of other durable goods continued to grow slowly.

Housing also led the advance in the U.S. leading index. The labour and stock market indicators were not far behind, buttressing consumer confidence against the recent series of interest rate hikes.

New orders in Canada continued to strengthen, thanks to gains in export and resource industries. Shipments rose in lock step with inventories, leaving their ratio unchanged again. The average work week rose for the first time in eight months, a signal that a rare dip in manufacturing jobs posted in February will soon be reversed.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 193.

For more information on the economy, consult the March issue of *Canadian economic observer* (11-010-XPB, \$23/\$227), which will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

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

	Sept. 1999 ^r	Oct. 1999 ^r	Nov. 1999 ^r	Dec. 1999 ^r	Jan. 2000 ^r	Feb. 2000	Last month of data available % change
Composite leading indicator (1992=100)	153.0	153.8	154.6	155.8	156.7	158.2	1.0
Housing index (1992=100) ¹	100.2	99.6	99.1	98.2	97.6	98.5	0.9
Business and personal services employment ('000)	2,346	2,345	2,349	2,358	2,365	2,372	0.3
TSE 300 stock price index (1975=1,000)	6,972	7,055	7,158	7,424	7,726	8,161	5.6
Money supply, M1 (\$ millions, 1992) ²	79,397	79,757	80,365	82,007	82,782	83,294	0.6
U.S. composite leading indicator (1992=100) ³	107.6	107.8	107.9	108.0	108.1	108.3	0.2
Manufacturing							
Average work week (hours)	38.8	38.8	38.7	38.6	38.6	38.7	0.3
New orders, durables (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	20,389	20,713	21,119	21,376	21,587	21,900	1.4
Shipments/inventories of finished goods ⁴	1.89	1.90	1.91	1.91	1.92	1.92	0.0 ⁵
Retail trade							
Furniture and appliance sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	1,376	1,390	1,403	1,414	1,413	1,418	0.3
Other durable goods sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	6,452	6,491	6,560	6,587	6,622	6,678	0.8
Unsmoothed composite	154.6	155.0	156.0	158.4	159.7	161.7	1.3

^r Revised figures.

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

Railway carloadings

Seven-day period ending March 7, 2000

Non-intermodal traffic loaded during the seven-day period ending March 7 increased 13.3% to 5.0 million tonnes compared with the same period last year. The number of cars loaded increased 12.8%.

Intermodal traffic totalled 417 000 tonnes, a 12.9% increase from the same period in 1999. The year-to-date figures increased 18.5% from last year.

Total traffic was 13.3% higher than in the same period in 1999. This brought the year-to-date total to 48.8 million tonnes, an increase of 12.3% from last 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. ■

Community college finances

1997/98

Community college revenue lost ground to inflation in 1997/98. Total community college revenue, adjusted for inflation, fell by 3.1% from 1996/97. The decline was

due primarily to a 6.3% drop in government grants and contracts and a 1.6% decline in bequests, donations and non-governments grants.

Student fees accounted for close to 16% of total revenue for community colleges in the 1997/98 academic year, their highest proportion ever. Students paid \$829 million in fees in 1997/98, 4.1% more than in the previous academic year and 66.9% more than in 1990/91. At the same time, the proportion of community college revenue coming from government grants and contracts has declined from 78.9% in 1990/91 to a low of 67.2% in 1997/98.

Community colleges spent \$5.2 billion in 1997/98, 3.8% less than in the previous academic year. Salaries, wages and benefits represented the largest share (62.9%) of total community colleges expenditures, down from 66.7% in 1990/91.

Available on CANSIM: table 00590203.

Provincial-level information is also available. For tables or general inquiries, contact Sharon-Anne Borde (613-951-1503; bordsha@statcan.ca). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bernard Bourgoïn (613-951-1506; bourber@statcan.ca), Centre for Education Statistics.

Sources of community college revenue

	Governments grants and contracts		Student fees		Bequests, donations and non-government grants		Other	
	percentage of total revenue		percentage of total revenue		percentage of total revenue		percentage of total revenue	
	1997/98	1990/91	1997/98	1990/91	1997/98	1990/91	1997/98	1990/91
Canada	67.2	78.9	15.9	9.5	1.9	1.6	15.0	10.0
Newfoundland	56.6	87.2	29.0	5.9	0.0	0.0	14.4	6.9
Prince Edward Island	50.0	72.3	34.8	11.7	0.0	0.0	15.2	16.0
Nova Scotia	71.1	91.9	10.1	3.9	0.0	0.0	18.8	4.2
New Brunswick	76.0	82.4	19.6	16.1	0.0	0.0	4.4	1.5
Quebec	83.0	84.1	5.8	4.4	2.1	4.0	9.1	7.5
Ontario	55.5	77.3	20.6	10.1	2.5	0.2	21.4	12.4
Manitoba	66.5	84.7	22.9	5.7	2.4	0.0	8.2	9.6
Saskatchewan	81.3	79.2	12.1	13.6	0.0	0.3	6.6	6.9
Alberta	55.6	72.8	25.0	14.4	1.2	2.0	18.2	10.8
British Columbia	63.6	71.4	19.3	16.0	1.8	0.6	15.3	12.0
Yukon	78.7	84.8	5.5	4.9	5.0	1.3	10.8	9.0
Northwest Territories	91.7	85.7	2.8	1.6	0.2	0.2	5.3	12.5

Income and expenses of community colleges

	1997/98	1996/97	1996/97 to 1997/98	1990/91	1990/91 to 1997/98
	\$ thousands	\$ thousands ¹	% change	\$ thousands ¹	% change
Income					
Government grants and contracts	3,499,180	3,735,128	-6.3	4,119,153	-15.1
Fees	828,899	796,139	4.1	496,690	66.9
Bequests, donations and non-governments grants	97,703	99,281	-1.6	83,896	16.5
Ancillary enterprises	339,065	334,307	1.4	246,467	37.6
Investment income	39,419	30,293	30.1	59,324	-33.6
Other	400,435	376,915	6.2	218,117	83.6
Total revenue	5,204,701	5,372,063	-3.1	5,223,647	-0.4
Expenditures					
Salaries, wages and fringe benefits	3,299,259	3,463,727	-4.7	3,494,399	-5.6
Operational supplies and expenses	375,842	383,045	-1.9	360,120	4.4
Furniture and equipment	245,055	215,418	13.8	218,910	11.9
Fees and contracted services	272,865	253,414	7.7	250,757	8.8
Debt servicing	210,737	234,397	-10.1	47,486	343.8
Building, land and site services	225,810	293,087	-23.0	349,216	-35.3
Ancillary enterprises	278,763	279,562	-0.3	239,699	16.3
Others	337,506	333,034	1.3	273,918	23.2
Total expenditure	5,245,837	5,455,684	-3.8	5,234,505	0.2

¹ In 1997/98 constant dollars.

Profile of Canadian exporters 1993 to 1997

Data from a profile of Canadian exporters from 1993 to 1997 are now available. Based on the new Canadian Exporter Registry, this profile offers comprehensive information on exporting establishments and the value of their exports. It was designed to meet growing demand for information about the exporting community not offered by standard merchandise trade statistics. The Exporter Registry is a joint initiative of Statistics Canada and Team Canada Inc., a network of federal departments and agencies that delivers international business development services to Canadians.

The first data release from the Exporter Registry are main aggregates from 1993 to 1997. They include: the number of establishments with exports above \$30,000; their domestic exports classified by industry grouping, size, and province or territory; and destination groupings, arranged by country or U.S. region. Data for 1998 and 1999 will be available in the fall of 2000.

In 1997, 30,738 establishments exported goods, a 29% increase from 1993. The value of their exports increased 58% during this five-year period to \$279 billion. The data show that the increasing value of exports was mainly the result of the growth of existing exporters, rather than the addition of new exporters.

The value of exports grew substantially in three industries during this period: clothing (+164%), electrical and electronic products (+151%), and furniture and fixtures (+142%).

A select group of large establishments accounted for the majority of Canadian domestic exports. In 1997, the 4% of establishments who shipped abroad \$25 million worth or more per year accounted for 82% of all exports. The motor vehicle industry, including parts, was a major part of this concentration. If it were excluded, large establishments would account for just 59% of all exports.

The smallest establishments, those with annual exports worth less than \$1 million, accounted for almost 70% of all establishments, but only 2% of the value of all exports.

These findings were consistent from 1993 to 1997. There was no strong trend during the five-year period toward any increasing levels of concentration.

The data show that the first year of an exporter's life is critical. About 50% of the establishments that were new in 1994 and 1995 were exporting in every year up to 1997. However, 30% of the establishments that were new in 1994 and 1995 became completely inactive within the first year, and continued to be at least until 1997. The remaining 20% of the new exporters fluctuated in and out of the registry throughout the reference period.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release,

contact David Ogden (613-951-3318), International Trade Division.

Number of exporting establishments by industry grouping

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Industry grouping (SIC-E basis)					
Agricultural and related services	1,186	1,271	1,247	1,308	1,332
Fishing, trapping, logging and forestry	290	335	332	322	312
Mining (including milling), quarrying and oil wells	276	296	333	331	362
Manufacturing	13,056	13,900	15,378	15,041	16,056
Construction, transportation and storage	791	966	1,158	1,257	1,350
Communication and other utilities	75	127	129	140	163
Wholesale trade	5,255	5,751	6,322	7,138	7,325
Retail trade	673	821	920	1,046	959
Finance	441	461	444	509	513
Business services	910	1,051	1,265	1,407	1,553
Other ¹	939	752	737	772	813
Total	23,892	25,731	28,265	29,271	30,738

¹ Includes service industries such as government and educational service industries.

Exporting establishments by value of exports

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
	Number				
\$30,000-\$99,999	7,520	7,285	7,865	7,859	8,068
\$100,000-\$999,999	9,722	10,986	11,820	12,231	12,843
\$1,000,000-\$4,999,999	3,926	4,278	5,029	5,253	5,620
\$5,000,000-\$24,999,999	1,845	2,160	2,414	2,681	2,890
\$25,000,000 and over	879	1,022	1,137	1,247	1,317
Total	23,892	25,731	28,265	29,271	30,738
	Total value (\$ millions)				
\$30,000-\$99,999	434	421	459	462	472
\$100,000-\$999,999	3,344	3,853	4,157	4,391	4,632
\$1,000,000-\$4,999,999	9,038	10,009	11,775	12,270	13,251
\$5,000,000-\$24,999,999	21,026	24,521	27,740	30,756	33,153
\$25,000,000 and over	142,506	172,256	200,093	209,192	227,350
Total	176,348	211,060	244,223	257,071	278,857

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
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