



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, April 19, 2000

For release at 8:30 a.m.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **Canadian international merchandise trade, February 2000**  
 International trade declined in February. Exports decreased by 2.6% to \$32.3 billion and imports by 1.2% to \$28.3 billion. Most of the decline was in the automotive sector, which saw a temporary slowdown at some Canadian plants. The trade balance, however, remained close to \$4.0 billion.

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  - **Wholesale trade, February 2000**  
 Following four consecutive monthly increases, wholesale sales fell 1.1% in February, influenced primarily by reduced wholesale receipts for lumber and building materials as well as farm machinery, equipment and supplies.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

### Canadian international merchandise trade

February 2000

International trade declined in February. Exports decreased by 2.6% to \$32.3 billion and imports by 1.2% to \$28.3 billion. Most of the decline was in the automotive sector, which saw a temporary slowdown at some Canadian plants. The trade balance, however, remained close to \$4.0 billion.

After four consecutive monthly increases, exports fell by 2.6% in February. The main factors contributing to this decline were the considerable decreases in exports of passenger automobiles and forestry products. Nevertheless, the level of exports was still 12.9% higher than in February 1999.

Imports registered a drop for the second consecutive month, after a rise of 3.2% in December. Lower imports of automotive parts, compressors and telecommunications equipment accounted for most of the decline.

The trade balance, which stood at \$4.0 billion, was quite strong for the first two months of the year, mainly because of lower imports.

#### Note to readers

Merchandise trade is one component of the current account of Canada's balance of payments, which also includes trade in services.

#### Exports down slightly in February

Automotive exports fell by 14.1% in February because of a temporary slowdown in production at some Canadian plants. Passenger cars and trucks were the hardest hit; cars were down 22.1% to \$3.9 billion, and trucks by 5.8% to \$1.5 billion. Passenger car exports had been at a record level in January, reaching the \$5 billion mark.

After three months of increases, exports of forest products declined. Although all sub-sectors contributed to the decline, wood-fabricated materials and lumber posted the biggest decreases. Though exports of oriented strandboard declined in February, the amount exported to the United States remained high. Moreover, certain wood products have had difficulty penetrating overseas markets, particularly in Europe, because of increased competition.

A decline in exports of wheat to Iran and Iraq and canola to Japan, China and Mexico, pushed exports of agricultural and fishing products down 2.8% this month. The surplus of wheat on world markets put downward pressure on wheat export prices, which dropped 5.1% in February. Canola exports also fell because of an oversupply in the market.

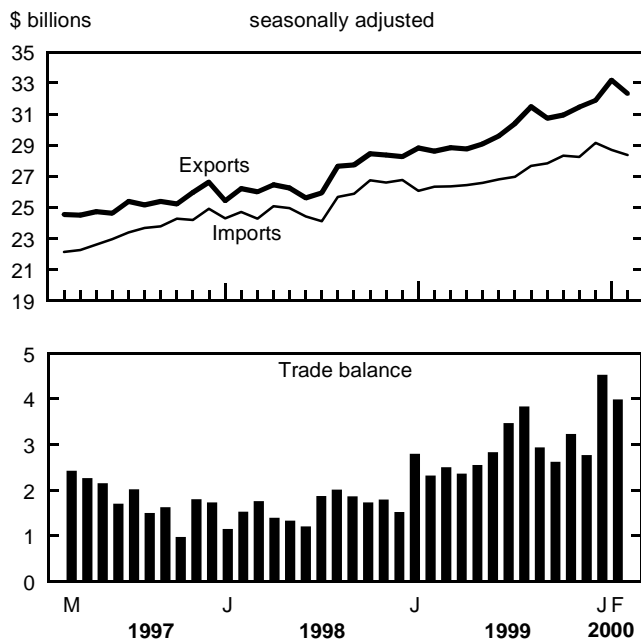
The jump of 104.4% in iron ore exports, due to the early reopening of northern ports after winter, combined with increased exports of organic chemical products to China, Taiwan and the United States, helped boost exports of industrial products by 2.1%.

Exports of energy products continued their upward trend for the fourth consecutive month. Crude oil experienced the highest jump, mainly due to export price increases of 13.3%. The level of February exports more than tripled compared with February 1999, because export prices increased 158.2% over this same period.

#### Imports down for the second consecutive month

A second consecutive drop in imports of telephone and telecommunications equipment, after a strong December, combined with a slowdown in imports of compressors, led to a decline in the machinery and

Exports, imports and trade balance



equipment sector. Imports of aircraft continued to slow, as major contracts drew to an end. Increased gas production capacity in Alberta boosted imports of drilling machinery, up 114.6% in February compared with February 1999.

The temporary slowdown in automotive production at some plants in February resulted in a decline in imports of automotive parts (-6.7%). However, the continued vitality of Canadian sales of new motor vehicles pushed truck and car imports up (+10.1% and +5.3%, respectively), offsetting somewhat the decline in the automotive sector.

A second consecutive decrease in imports of prescription drugs, particularly from Ireland, exerted a downward pressure on overall imports of consumer goods. The prescription drug market is volatile and fluctuates according to North American demand.

Imports of industrial commodities stabilized somewhat in February, after three months of strong fluctuations. Increased imports of gold, active ingredients for antibiotics and herbicides, as well as electricity almost completely offset significant decreases in imports of ores and automotive hardware.

After two months of slow decline, imports of energy products surged 12.7% in February. Strong price increases for crude oil combined with large volumes of kerosene imports boosted the energy sector as a whole.

## Revisions

In general, merchandise trade data are revised regularly 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, 3685-3699, 3701-3711, 3713, 3720, 3887-3913, 8430-8435 and 8438-8447.**

This release contains a summary of the merchandise trade data to be published shortly in *Canadian international merchandise trade* (65-001-XPB, \$19/\$188 or 65-001-XIB, \$14/\$141). 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-XPB, \$38/\$124). See *How to order publications*.

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, (613-951-9647; 1-800-294-5583), Marketing and Client Services Section, International Trade Division. □

## Merchandise trade

	Jan. 2000 <sup>r</sup>	Feb. 2000	Jan. to Feb. 2000	Feb. 1999 to Feb. 2000	Jan. to Feb. 1999	Jan. to Feb. 2000	Jan.-Feb. 1999 to Jan.-Feb. 2000
seasonally adjusted, \$ current							
	\$ millions		% change		\$ millions		% change
<b>Principal trading partners</b>							
<b>Exports</b>							
United States	28,504	27,471	-3.6	13.0	48,919	55,975	14.4
Japan	816	777	-4.8	6.9	1,579	1,593	0.9
European Union	1,621	1,816	12.0	29.4	2,879	3,437	19.4
Other OECD countries <sup>1</sup>	702	679	-3.3	16.7	1,117	1,381	23.6
All other countries	1,548	1,574	1.7	-1.7	2,944	3,122	6.0
Total	33,191	32,317	-2.6	12.9	57,439	65,508	14.0
<b>Imports</b>							
United States	21,568	21,291	-1.3	5.6	40,531	42,859	5.7
Japan	885	932	5.3	12.8	1,605	1,817	13.2
European Union	2,630	2,450	-6.8	4.1	4,358	5,080	16.6
Other OECD countries <sup>1</sup>	1,286	1,317	2.4	26.3	1,995	2,603	30.5
All other countries	2,319	2,365	2.0	22.1	3,883	4,684	20.6
Total	28,688	28,355	-1.2	7.7	52,372	57,043	8.9
<b>Balance</b>							
United States	6,936	6,180	...	...	8,388	13,116	...
Japan	-69	-155	...	...	-26	-224	...
European Union	-1,009	-634	...	...	-1,479	-1,643	...
Other OECD countries <sup>1</sup>	-584	-638	...	...	-878	-1,222	...
All other countries	-771	-791	...	...	-939	-1,562	...
Total	4,503	3,962	...	...	5,067	8,465	...
<b>Principal commodity groupings</b>							
<b>Exports</b>							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,201	2,139	-2.8	0.7	4,224	4,340	2.7
Energy products	3,311	3,761	13.6	111.4	3,593	7,072	96.8
Forestry products	3,567	3,416	-4.2	10.6	6,196	6,983	12.7
Industrial goods and materials	5,081	5,187	2.1	9.6	9,338	10,268	10.0
Machinery and equipment	7,750	7,775	0.3	15.5	13,633	15,525	13.9
Automotive products	8,878	7,626	-14.1	-3.7	15,898	16,504	3.8
Other consumer goods	1,163	1,166	0.3	3.4	2,291	2,329	1.7
Special transactions trade <sup>2</sup>	658	674	2.4	12.9	1,224	1,332	8.8
Other balance of payments adjustments	582	573	-1.5	10.4	1,041	1,155	11.0
<b>Imports</b>							
Agricultural and fishing products	1,518	1,487	-2.0	4.1	2,902	3,005	3.5
Energy products	1,182	1,332	12.7	105.9	1,252	2,514	100.8
Forestry products	246	237	-3.7	7.2	432	483	11.8
Industrial goods and materials	5,530	5,564	0.6	12.5	9,930	11,094	11.7
Machinery and equipment	9,570	9,255	-3.3	2.2	17,686	18,825	6.4
Automotive products	6,410	6,336	-1.2	4.9	12,205	12,746	4.4
Other consumer goods	3,187	3,099	-2.8	2.7	5,991	6,286	4.9
Special transactions trade <sup>2</sup>	493	520	5.5	11.1	965	1,013	5.0
Other balance of payments adjustments	553	526	-4.9	5.0	1,010	1,079	6.8

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures

... Figures not appropriate or not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Includes Australia, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, Poland, South Korea, Hungary and the Czech Republic.

<sup>2</sup> These are mainly low valued transactions, value of repairs to equipment, and goods returned to country of origin.

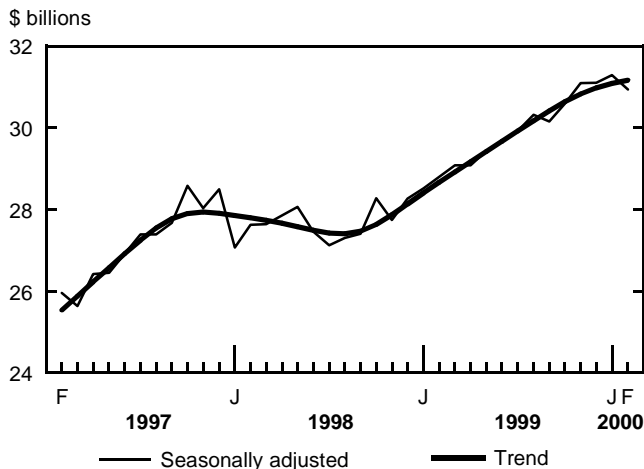
## Wholesale trade

February 2000 (preliminary)

Following four consecutive monthly increases, wholesale sales fell 1.1% in February, influenced primarily by reduced wholesale receipts for lumber and building materials as well as farm machinery, equipment and supplies.

Wholesale sales have generally climbed during the past several years. In recent months, the pace of increase has slowed, though sales in February were 7.7% higher than February 1999. The one exception to the general upward trend of the past few years was the first half of 1998, when sales were steady.

**Wholesale sales take a step back in February**



Wholesalers of lumber and building materials led the decline in February; their sales fell \$160 million. Wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies posted a decline of \$105 million. The dollar-value declines in these two groups also made up the largest percentage drops, 6.2% and 17.8%, respectively.

The four largest trade groups (by monthly sales) all showed slightly higher receipts in February. The largest was posted by wholesalers in the other products group (+0.8%). The other products group includes wholesalers of paper and paper products, waste materials and a variety of chemicals.

### Sales of lumber and building materials down

The lumber wholesalers saw their sales decline after three consecutive monthly increases. Sales in this group have been generally rising since mid-1998, but the rate of increase has slowed in recent months. The value

of inventories held by these wholesalers at the end of February was 1.7% higher than at the end of January. Also, February saw a 2.4% decline in shipments from Canadian manufacturers of lumber products, and a 6.1% decline in lumber exports.

Companies in this industry had a busy year in 1999; the February decline in the manufacture and distribution of lumber products may be because some firms have reached their quarterly or fiscal-year quotas on exports to the United States. Orders from builders may also have fallen, because the value of building permits granted in February in Canada was down 14.5% from January levels, and in the United States the number of authorized construction permits was down 7.9% from January.

Also closely tied to the construction industry are wholesalers of metal, hardware and plumbing equipment. Wholesalers of these products, like lumber wholesalers, saw their sales drop (-3.8%) after four months of gains. But their inventories rose 1.7% in February. Like wholesalers of lumber, their sales have generally risen since mid-1998.

### Still a struggle for wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies

After a single month of increased sales, wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies saw their sales drop for the third time in the last four months. The drop is due mainly to weak sales by wholesalers in Ontario and, to a lesser extent, in Quebec.

Sales in this group have been generally falling since the autumn of 1997. The decline has been tempered by brief periods during which sales have levelled off — in late 1998 and the autumn of 1999.

Inventories held by wholesalers in this group peaked in the fall of 1998, almost one year after the peak in sales. Since then, the value of inventories held by wholesalers in this group has been generally declining.

### Sales continue to expand for wholesalers in the other products group

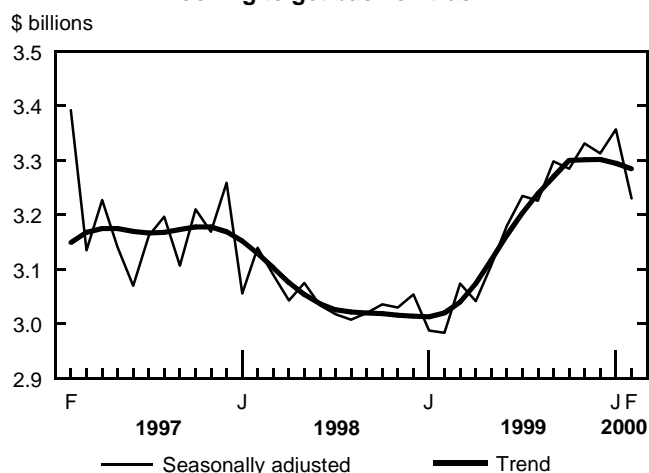
The strength in this group comes from sales related to various paper products, industrial and household chemicals, and agricultural supplies such as animal feeds and chemical supplies for farms.

Sales by wholesalers in this group have been generally climbing since the fall of 1998. Interestingly, inventories have diminished each month since early 1999 (except for three months in the fall of 1999); they are now 4.2% lower than in February 1999. The inventory-to-sales ratio has fallen from 1.37 in February 1999 to 1.17 this February.

## Lower sales in both British Columbia and Quebec

Substantially decreased sales were recorded by wholesalers in both British Columbia (-3.8%) and Quebec (-3.5%). In British Columbia, wholesalers felt the effects of depressed sales of lumber and building materials. An additional factor may have been the recent poor economic indicators and weak consumer confidence in Japan, one of British Columbia's major trading partners. Wholesalers in the province had seen sales generally expand since late 1998, but that expansion has shown some weakness in recent months.

**British Columbia wholesalers looking to get back on track**



In Quebec, wholesale sales dropped for a second consecutive month, but their general level is still rising slightly. Wholesale sales in Saskatchewan (+5.0%) were buoyed by large sales of chemical fertilizers. Results in both Prince Edward Island (+4.6%) and Nova Scotia (+5.5%) benefitted from strong sales in the food products group. Results for the Northwest Territories got a boost from sales linked to the development of mining sites.

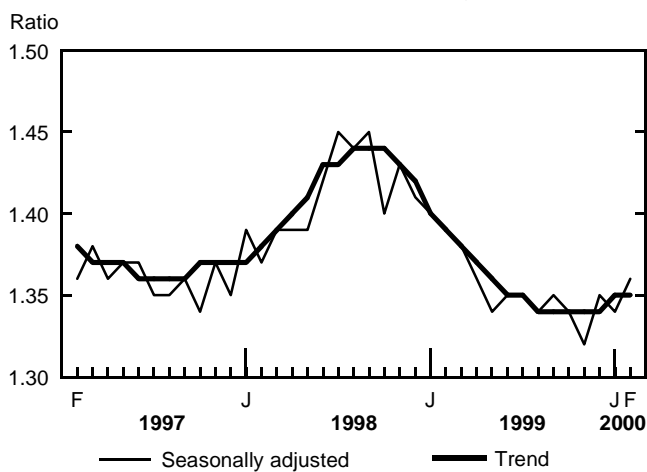
## Value of inventories nudges upward

Inventories held by wholesalers rose 0.5% in February to \$42.2 billion. The value of inventories has

been growing strongly for several years, except for a period of moderate gains from early 1998 until the spring of 1999.

The inventory-to-sales ratio rose from 1.34 in January to 1.36 in February. It has not been that high since April 1999. It had peaked at about 1.45 by mid-1998 and had fallen by mid-1999 to the 1.35 range, where it has remained. The inventory-to-sales ratio provides a measure of the duration, in months, which current stocks would last.

**Inventory-to-sales ratio posts a further small increase in February**



Available on CANSIM: matrices 59, 61, 648-649.

The February 2000 issue of *Wholesale trade* (63-008-XIB, \$14/\$140) will be available shortly. See *How to order publications*.

For data or general information, contact the Client Services Unit at (613-951-3549; 1-877-421-3067; [wholesaleinfo@statcan.ca](mailto:wholesaleinfo@statcan.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Greg Parsons (613-951-0062; [parsons@statcan.ca](mailto:parsons@statcan.ca)), Wholesale Trade Section, Distributive Trades Division. □

## Wholesale merchants' sales and inventories

	Feb. 1999 <sup>r</sup>	Nov. 1999 <sup>r</sup>	Dec. 1999 <sup>r</sup>	Jan. 2000 <sup>r</sup>	Feb. 2000 <sup>p</sup>	Jan. to Feb. 2000	Feb. 1999 to Feb. 2000
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions					% change	
<b>Sales, all trade groups</b>	<b>28,796</b>	<b>31,093</b>	<b>31,103</b>	<b>31,286</b>	<b>30,933</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>7.4</b>
Food products	4,551	4,778	4,908	4,691	4,710	0.4	3.5
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	1,839	1,904	1,920	1,897	1,896	0.0	3.1
Apparel and dry goods	566	604	578	531	511	-3.8	-9.6
Household goods	788	858	848	871	842	-3.3	6.9
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	5,299	6,158	6,140	6,144	6,162	0.3	16.3
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	1,886	2,087	2,092	2,113	2,033	-3.8	7.8
Lumber and building materials	2,227	2,498	2,539	2,582	2,422	-6.2	8.8
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	654	606	564	585	480	-17.8	-26.5
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	4,285	4,619	4,608	4,703	4,730	0.6	10.4
Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery	2,843	2,868	2,840	2,889	2,834	-1.9	-0.3
Other products	3,860	4,114	4,066	4,279	4,312	0.8	11.7
<b>Sales by province and territory</b>							
Newfoundland	205	219	216	224	225	0.7	9.9
Prince Edward Island	48	51	51	51	53	4.6	10.4
Nova Scotia	538	539	579	531	561	5.5	4.3
New Brunswick	356	395	405	404	401	-0.7	12.8
Quebec	5,948	6,282	6,380	6,340	6,119	-3.5	2.9
Ontario	14,343	15,647	15,468	15,563	15,516	-0.3	8.2
Manitoba	879	879	877	897	891	-0.7	1.4
Saskatchewan	858	869	821	913	959	5.0	11.8
Alberta	2,613	2,858	2,971	2,981	2,945	-1.2	12.7
British Columbia	2,984	3,331	3,313	3,357	3,230	-3.8	8.2
Yukon	9	9	10	10	10	3.7	13.7
Northwest Territories	14	12	10	12	19	52.8	36.7
Nunavut	2	3	3	3	3	-6.9	21.0
<b>Inventories, all trade groups</b>	<b>39,970</b>	<b>41,165</b>	<b>41,886</b>	<b>42,005</b>	<b>42,198</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>5.6</b>
Food products	2,645	2,795	2,824	2,899	2,827	-2.5	6.9
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	2,216	2,348	2,409	2,345	2,404	2.5	8.5
Apparel and dry goods	1,247	1,220	1,188	1,147	1,155	0.7	-7.4
Household goods	1,546	1,537	1,587	1,546	1,530	-1.0	-1.0
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	5,556	6,059	6,410	6,464	6,681	3.4	20.3
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	3,515	3,758	3,744	3,731	3,796	1.7	8.0
Lumber and building materials	3,577	3,929	4,003	4,026	4,094	1.7	14.5
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	2,219	2,052	2,051	2,020	2,014	-0.3	-9.2
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	9,741	9,858	10,092	10,178	10,140	-0.4	4.1
Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery	2,438	2,444	2,468	2,505	2,507	0.1	2.9
Other products	5,270	5,166	5,111	5,145	5,050	-1.8	-4.2

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.



## OTHER RELEASES

### Local government enterprises, income and expenses

Fiscal year ended nearest to December 31, 1997

In 1997, after-tax profits of local government enterprises reached \$461.7 million, up \$20.4 million or 4.6% from the previous year. While local power utilities saw lower profits in 1997, higher profits by public transit systems more than offset the decline.

However, local power utilities, with a net income of \$365.2 million, accounted for most of the overall profit. In comparison, provincial electric utilities reported a net income before restructuring costs of \$1.7 billion in 1997. The profit of public transit systems reached \$61.3 million during the year. Enterprises in Ontario and Alberta accounted for 66% of the total.

### Income and expenses of local government enterprises

	1997		1996	
	Income	Expenses	Net income	Net income
	millions of dollars			
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,580.2</b>	<b>11,118.5</b>	<b>461.7</b>	<b>441.3</b>
Electricity	8,827.4	8,462.2	365.2	381.0
Transit systems	2,588.6	2,527.3	61.3	21.6
Gas distribution	132.2	103.8	28.4	30.8
Telephone	32.0	25.2	6.8	7.9

**Note:** Totals may not add due to rounding.

Total income reached \$11.6 billion in 1997. This amount includes subsidies of \$1.1 billion to public transit systems. When removing subsidies from income, public transit systems generated profits in only three provinces, Saskatchewan (\$8.9 million), Prince Edward Island (\$2.3 million) and Alberta (\$0.8 million).

Data are drawn from Statistics Canada surveys, provincial departments of municipal affairs, financial statements of local enterprises, provincial statistical agencies as well as other government agencies. They cover all local government entities operating in the public transit, power utilities, telephone and gas distribution industries. Local governments are also involved in other commercial activities such as campgrounds and golf courses. The consolidation of these data with those of the municipalities prevents identifying them separately.

### Income and expenses of local government enterprises

	1997		
	Income	Expenses	Net income
	millions of dollars		
<b>Canada</b>	<b>11,580.2</b>	<b>11,118.5</b>	<b>461.7</b>
Newfoundland	8.1	8.1	0.0
Prince Edward Island	10.2	7.9	2.3
Nova Scotia	25.7	25.7	0.0
New Brunswick	96.2	90.8	5.4
Quebec	1,162.0	1,087.5	74.5
Ontario	8,128.0	7,962.7	165.3
Manitoba	217.0	175.7	41.3
Saskatchewan	121.0	99.4	21.6
Alberta	1,719.9	1,579.3	140.6
British Columbia	90.6	80.0	10.6
Yukon	1.6	1.6	0.0
Northwest Territories	0.0	0.0	0.0

**Note:** Totals may not add due to rounding.

### Available on CANSIM: matrices 3271 and 3272.

Data are also available through custom and special tabulation. They are presented by province and territory and by industry at the Canada total for the period 1995 to 1997. Data are computed according to the Financial Management System, which provides a standardized presentation across provinces. For more information or general inquiries on the products or services of the Public Institutions Division, contact Jo-Anne Thibault at (613-951-0767; [jo-anne.thibault@statcan.ca](mailto:jo-anne.thibault@statcan.ca)).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Richard Sauriol (613-951-1829; [saurric@statcan.ca](mailto:saurric@statcan.ca)) or Jean-François Carbonneau (613-951-8561; [carbjea@statcan.ca](mailto:carbjea@statcan.ca)), Public Institutions Division. ■

### Export and import price indexes

February 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 February 2000 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups (62 exports and 61 imports).

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 February 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 February 2000 issue of *Canadian international merchandise trade* (65-001-XPB, \$19/\$188, 65-001-XIB, \$14/\$141) 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 Jocelyne Elibani (613-951-9647; 1-800-294-5583), Marketing and Client Services Section, International Trade Division. ■

### **Electric utility construction price indexes** 1998 (final) and 1999 (preliminary)

Preliminary figures show that construction costs for distribution systems increased 2.7 % in 1999 compared with 1998. The increase was driven by costs of both installation labour (+4.9%) and construction indirects (+4.6%), though offset by a decline in the cost for overhead conductors (-6.7%). Meanwhile, the finalized 1998 data for distribution systems shows an increase of 4.1% over 1997.

Construction costs for the transmission line system series rose moderately (+1.0%) in 1999, compared with the previous year's growth (+4.6%). The transmission line and the substation components were up by 1.1% and 1.0% respectively, a smaller increase than in 1998, (+3.9% and +5.0%). The various labour series within the transmission line system were the largest contributors to the rise, while small increases in the cost of materials dampened the overall effect.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 9936.**

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

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Louise Chaîné (613-951-3350; fax: 613-951-1539; [infounit@statcan.ca](mailto:infounit@statcan.ca)), Client Services Unit, Prices Division, or Adrian Fisher (613-951-9612; fax: 613-951-2848; [fishadr@statcan.ca](mailto:fishadr@statcan.ca)), Prices Division. ■

### **Energy supply and demand**

Second quarter 1999

Data on Canada's energy supply and demand are now available for the second quarter of 1999.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 4945, 4946, 4950-4962 and 7976-8001.**

The second quarter 1999 issue of *Quarterly report on energy supply and demand in Canada* (57-003-XPB, \$43/\$141), 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 Gary Smalldridge (613-951-3567; [smalgar@statcan.ca](mailto:smalgar@statcan.ca)), Energy Section, Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

### **Stocks of frozen poultry meat**

April 1, 2000 (preliminary)

Data for stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on April 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), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division. ■

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