



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Monday, June 19, 2000**

For release at 8:30 a.m.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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There are no major releases today.

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## OTHER RELEASES

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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Steel primary forms

April 2000

Steel primary forms production in April was 1 330 903 tonnes, an increase of 0.3% from 1 326 426 tonnes in April 1999.

Year-to-date production reached 5 699 507 tonnes, up 8.4% from 5 256 123 tonnes in the same period of 1999.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 58 (level 2, series 3).**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Andy Shinnan (613-951-3515; [shinand@statcan.ca](mailto:shinand@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

### For-hire motor carriers of freight (top carriers)

First quarter 2000

The top 82 for-hire motor carriers of freight (Canada-based trucking companies earning \$25 million or more annually) generated operating revenues of \$1.65 billion during the first three months of 2000. Although there were two fewer top carriers in the first quarter compared with the first quarter of 1999, average revenue per carrier increased 14%. Average operating expenses for top carriers also increased 14% over the first quarter of 1999 to \$19.1 million. After higher fuel expenditures in the third and fourth quarter of 1999, top carriers in the first quarter paid 34% more for fuel than in the first quarter of 1999.

The operating ratio (operating expenses divided by operating revenues) for all top for-hire carriers and its largest sub-group, general freight carriers, was unchanged from the first quarter of 1999 at 0.95 (a ratio of greater than 1.00 represents an operating loss). However, revenues outpaced expenses among carriers hauling bulk liquids, dry bulk materials, forest products and other specialized freight, resulting in an improvement of 2 points in the specialized freight carrier operating ratio (0.94) over the first quarter of 1999.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Irwin Bess (613-951-9605; fax: 613-951-0579; [bessirw@statcan.ca](mailto:bessirw@statcan.ca)), Transportation Division. ■

### The importance of nature to Canadians: The economic significance of nature-related activities

1996

The results of Statistics Canada's 1996 Survey on the Importance of Nature to Canadians are the focus of a new publication from Environment Canada.

*The importance of nature to Canadians: The economic significance of nature-related activities* covers such topics as: spending on nature-related activities, including camping, canoeing, sightseeing, fishing and wildlife viewing; the economic impacts of this spending in terms of contribution to gross domestic product; tax revenues generated and jobs supported; and the economic value placed by participants on these activities.

The survey was conducted in 1997 on behalf of 15 federal, provincial and territorial agencies. Insights based on the report will contribute to the management of Canada's wildlife, water, forests and protected areas that are essential for the public's enjoyment of nature-related activities.

The microdata file for the Survey on the Importance of Nature to Canadians in 1996 was released in June 1999. This file pertains to the nature-related activities of Canadians in 1996, and focuses on outdoor activities in natural areas such as: camping, canoeing and sightseeing; trips taken to watch, feed, photograph or study wildlife; wildlife encounters around the residence; fishing for recreation; and hunting.

*The importance of nature to Canadians: The economic significance of nature-related activities* can be downloaded from Environment Canada's Web site ([www.ec.gc.ca/nature/survey.htm](http://www.ec.gc.ca/nature/survey.htm)). A paper version (EN47-312/2000E) is available from the Enquiry Center, Environment Canada (1-800-668-6767; 819-997-2800; fax: 819-953-2225; [enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca](mailto:enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca)). For more information on this publication, contact Elaine DuWors (819-953-1416; [elaine.duwors@ec.gc.ca](mailto:elaine.duwors@ec.gc.ca)) or Michel Villeneuve (819-994-4487; [michel.villeneuve@ec.gc.ca](mailto:michel.villeneuve@ec.gc.ca)), Environment Canada.

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; fax: 613-951-3012; [ssd@statcan.ca](mailto:ssd@statcan.ca)), or Nathalie Noreau

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(613-951-4607; [nathalie.noreau@statcan.ca](mailto:nathalie.noreau@statcan.ca)), Special Surveys Division, Statistics Canada. ■

## **Construction type plywood**

April 2000

Canadian firms produced 164 161 cubic metres of construction-type plywood in April, up 0.7% from the 162 905 cubic metres produced in April 1999.

Year-to-date production totalled 670 935 cubic metres, an increase of 5.7% from the 634 767 cubic metres produced during the same period in 1999.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (level 1).**

The April 2000 issue of *Construction type plywood* (35-001-XIB, \$5/\$47) is now available. See *How to order publications*.

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](mailto:sara.breen@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## **Shipments of rolled steel**

April 2000

Rolled steel shipments totalled 1 180 261 tonnes in April, down 16.9% from 1 421 033 tonnes in March and down 8.9% from 1 295 567 tonnes in April 1999.

Year-to-date shipments at the end of April totalled 5 153 720 tonnes, up 2.8% from 5 011 722 tonnes the previous year.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 58 and 122 (series 22-25).**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Andy Shinnan (613-951-3515; [shinand@statcan.ca](mailto:shinand@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

## **Construction Union Wage Rate Index**

May 2000

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada increased 0.8% to 115.7 (1992=100) in May compared with April. The Composite index increased 1.8% compared with the revised May 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 second quarter 2000 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79) will be available in September. See *How to order publications*.

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

## **Selected financial indexes**

May 2000

May figures are now available for selected financial indexes (1992=100), including conventional mortgage rates, prime business lending rates, provincial bond yield averages and exchange rates.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 9928.**

These indexes will appear in the second quarter 2000 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79), which will be available in September. See *How to order publications*.

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

## **Stocks of frozen poultry meat**

June 1, 2000 (preliminary)

Data for stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on June 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) or Gilles Beaudry (613-951-6480), Agriculture Division. ■

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

**Monthly Survey of Manufacturing**, April 2000  
Catalogue number **31-001-XPB** (\$20/\$196).

**Construction type plywood**, April 2000  
Catalogue number **35-001-XIB** (\$5/\$47).

**Primary iron and steel**, April 2000  
Catalogue number **41-001-XIB** (\$5/\$47).

**All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.**

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Catalogue 11-001E (P) article 11-001E/11-001E-001E-001E



Statistics Canada

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

#### MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2  
Changes in the number of people taking urban transit. Canadians are riding it less and less. In 1995, each Canadian took an average of about six trips 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 1995, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow moderate growth during the year.

#### OTHER RELEASES

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

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Statistics Canada

### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001E.

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