



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, June 20, 2000

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Canadian international merchandise trade, April 2000** 2
Exports, and to a lesser extent imports, diminished in April after strong increases in March, leaving the trade balance at \$3.2 billion, down \$941 million from March. Declines in the automotive sector were the main contributors to the drop in both exports and imports.
- **Wholesale trade, April 2000** 5
Wholesale sales were nearly unchanged in April (-0.2%) after March's healthy increase (+2.0%).

OTHER RELEASES

Natural gas sales, April 2000	8
Demographic statistics, first quarter 2000	8
Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation, May 2000	9
Export and import price indexes, April 2000	9
Refined petroleum products, April 2000	9
Financial flow accounts, first quarter 2000	10

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

11

REGIONAL REFERENCE CENTRES

12



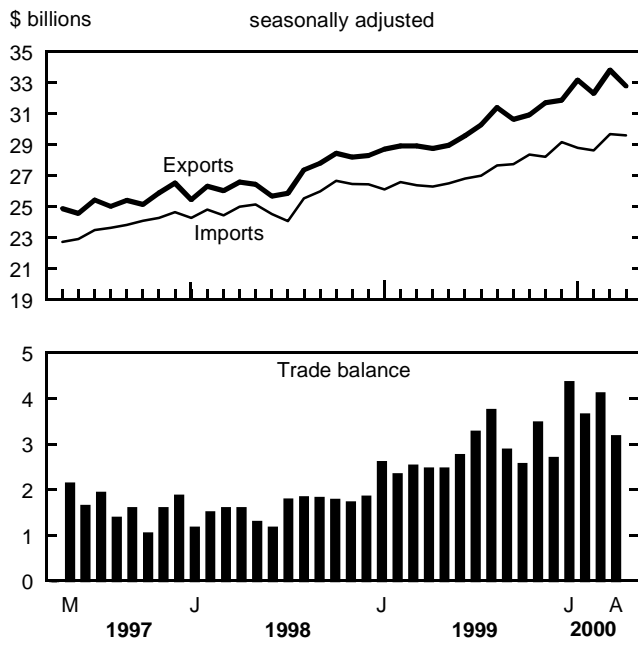
MAJOR RELEASES

Canadian international merchandise trade

April 2000

Exports, and to a lesser extent imports, diminished in April after strong increases in March, leaving the trade balance at \$3.2 billion, down \$941 million from March. Declines in the automotive sector were the main contributors to the drop in both exports and imports.

Exports, imports and trade balance



Export volatility, which has been apparent since the beginning of the year, intensified this month. Exports declined by more than \$1 billion in April (-3.0%) to \$32.8 billion, after a \$1.5 billion increase in March. Declines were widespread among industries, but the automotive sector decreased the most; all of its components have registered major monthly fluctuations since the beginning of the year. Crude petroleum exports were at their lowest level since the beginning of the year, mainly owing to a 14.9% decrease in export prices in April. The largest upward movement, a relatively small one, was in the forest products sector, owing to strong world demand for wood pulp.

Note to readers

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

Imports were off 0.3% from March to \$29.6 billion. Declines for trucks, automobile parts, and coal and petroleum products were almost entirely offset by increased imports of machinery and equipment.

Automobiles, crude petroleum and aircraft lead the decline in exports

After surging in March, automotive products declined 4.6% in April. Despite these major monthly fluctuations, exports stayed close to October 1999 levels. The largest decline in April was in exports of cars, which fell \$181 million or 4.2%. Exports of trucks were down 7.9% from March, and were lower than in April 1999. Exports of parts, after setting records last month, fell slightly, as some manufacturers anticipated lower sales over the summer months for several models.

Energy exports decreased for the second consecutive month. The 7.4% decline was almost entirely due to a drop in crude petroleum exports, which fell 17.7% as a result of a 14.9% price slump. The rise in natural gas exports was strictly a price effect; the export price for this commodity rose 3.9% in April, continuing the trend established since the beginning of the year.

Exports of industrial goods fell by 5.2% in April. After record levels set in March, there were significantly lower overseas shipments of minerals, metals and alloys, and plastics, especially to Europe and China. While overseas shipments of minerals are essentially volatile, exports of metals and alloys were affected by price cuts in April.

After setting records in March, fewer shipments of aircraft and industrial machinery lowered exports in the machinery and equipment sector by 1.4%, or \$118 million. This decline was somewhat offset by solid gains in exports of telecommunications equipment, which rose by 18.8% over March and April. Rising demand for wireless communications is the main reason for this growth.

Exports of forest products remained stable. Recovering exports of wood pulp eliminated the impact of lower exports of wood-fabricated products and

newsprint. Lumber exports rose slightly; April was the first month of the year for the application of annual quotas for exports to the United States.

Offsetting movements leave imports virtually unchanged

Imports were 0.3% lower than in March, as strong reductions in imports of trucks, automotive parts and energy products were almost entirely offset by higher imports of machinery and equipment.

Imports of automotive products fluctuated strongly for a fourth consecutive month, especially for trucks and automotive parts. Canadian demand for trucks seemed to slow after a very active 1999. Production of some car models decreased; this lessened the need for imported parts, as companies anticipated lower demand over the summer months. Car imports rose 6.9% in April, however, more than making up for losses posted in March.

After two consecutive monthly increases, imports of energy products dropped by 4.7% in April. Lower imports of kerosene as well as diesel fuel from the United Kingdom contributed the most to the decline in this sector. The strong rise in crude petroleum imports was entirely due to volume, as prices dropped by 8.6%.

The strong surge in imports of drilling and mining equipment, as well as other equipment for building drilling platforms, pushed up the machinery and equipment sector. Computer imports rose for the second consecutive month (+12.1% since February). However, lower imports (-4.1%) of other equipment and tools, particularly those linked to the automotive sector, as well of aircraft parts, limited the total increase for this sector.

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. Please 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, (1-800-294-5583; 613-951-9647), International Trade Division. □

Merchandise trade

	Mar. 2000 ^r	April 2000	Mar. to April 2000	April 1999 to April 2000	Jan. to April 1999	Jan. to April 2000	Jan.-April 1999 to Jan.-April 2000
seasonally adjusted, \$ current							
	\$ millions		% change		\$ millions		% change
Principal trading partners							
Exports							
United States	28,877	28,428	-1.6	14.9	98,730	113,306	14.8
Japan	828	826	-0.2	8.5	3,066	3,259	6.3
European Union	1,703	1,635	-4.0	13.9	5,788	6,737	16.4
Other OECD countries ¹	807	568	-29.6	-0.4	2,262	2,679	18.4
All other countries	1,580	1,315	-16.8	5.1	5,465	6,027	10.3
Total	33,795	32,774	-3.0	14.0	115,312	132,011	14.5
Imports							
United States	22,242	21,979	-1.2	8.5	81,338	87,369	7.4
Japan	954	985	3.2	18.4	3,301	3,750	13.6
European Union	2,892	2,745	-5.1	29.0	8,765	10,759	22.7
Other OECD countries ¹	1,150	1,305	13.5	28.7	3,991	5,068	27.0
All other countries	2,444	2,588	5.9	25.6	7,980	9,774	22.5
Total	29,682	29,602	-0.3	12.6	105,376	116,719	10.8
Balance							
United States	6,635	6,449	...	...	17,392	25,937	...
Japan	-126	-159	...	...	-235	-491	...
European Union	-1,189	-1,110	...	...	-2,977	-4,022	...
Other OECD countries ¹	-343	-737	...	...	-1,729	-2,389	...
All other countries	-864	-1,273	...	...	-2,515	-3,747	...
Total	4,113	3,172	...	...	9,936	15,292	...
Principal commodity groupings							
Exports							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,276	2,191	-3.7	10.5	8,289	8,796	6.1
Energy products	3,576	3,310	-7.4	52.4	7,662	13,732	79.2
Forestry products	3,503	3,535	0.9	9.3	12,538	14,069	12.2
Industrial goods and materials	5,405	5,124	-5.2	12.2	18,493	20,839	12.7
Machinery and equipment	8,393	8,275	-1.4	19.3	27,557	32,242	17.0
Automotive products	8,289	7,907	-4.6	4.1	31,693	32,856	3.7
Other consumer goods	1,160	1,168	0.7	2.0	4,510	4,639	2.9
Special transactions trade ²	616	647	5.0	6.8	2,433	2,473	1.6
Other balance of payments adjustments	577	617	6.9	18.4	2,135	2,364	10.7
Imports							
Agricultural and fishing products	1,507	1,448	-3.9	-1.8	5,860	5,953	1.6
Energy products	1,376	1,311	-4.7	61.5	2,774	5,218	88.1
Forestry products	262	255	-2.7	9.4	888	1,000	12.6
Industrial goods and materials	5,964	5,918	-0.8	18.0	20,125	23,092	14.7
Machinery and equipment	9,716	9,911	2.0	14.8	35,032	38,569	10.1
Automotive products	6,531	6,367	-2.5	4.0	24,638	25,745	4.5
Other consumer goods	3,266	3,329	1.9	12.1	12,009	12,914	7.5
Special transactions trade ²	525	506	-3.6	-0.6	2,016	2,061	2.2
Other balance of payments adjustments	536	556	3.7	7.3	2,038	2,165	6.2

^r Revised figures

... Figures not appropriate or not applicable.

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

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

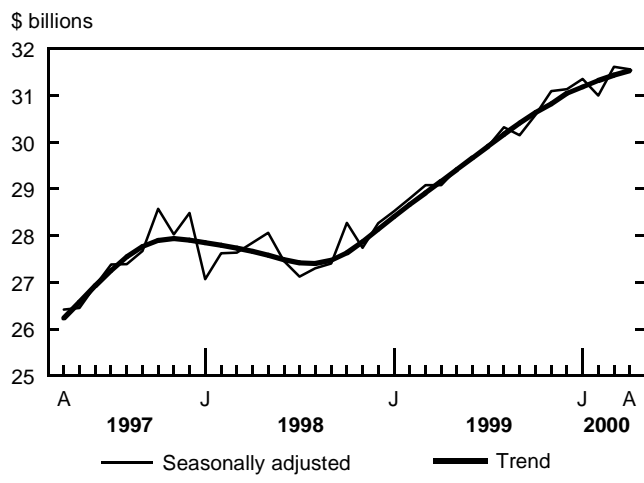
Wholesale trade

April 2000 (preliminary)

Wholesale sales were nearly unchanged in April (-0.2%) after March's healthy increase (+2.0%). Despite the pause this month, wholesalers have seen generally rising sales since mid-1998.

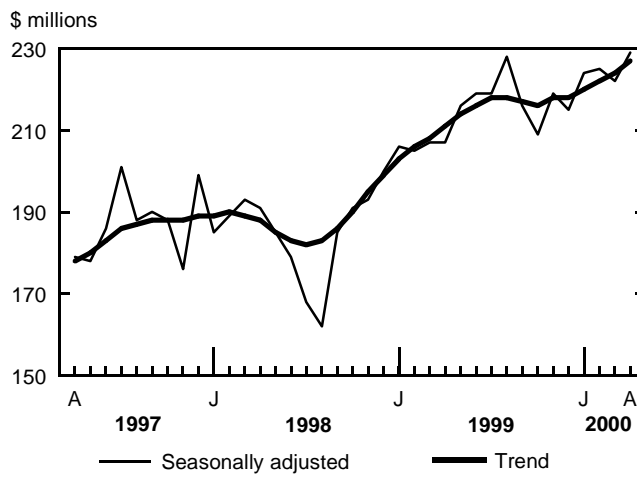
In April, wholesalers sold products and services valued at \$31.6 billion. Important declines were noted in lumber and building materials (-8.5%), farm machinery, equipment and supplies (-5.4%), and metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies (-3.4%). However, major advances in computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery (+4.2%), household goods (+2.8%), and motor vehicles parts and accessories (+1.6%) nearly offset the declines.

Wholesale sales pause in April



Gains were reported in six provinces. Nova Scotia (-2.9%), Quebec (-1.8%), Alberta (-1.7%), and British Columbia (-0.6%) all reported declines. Two territories also reported declines; Yukon (-10.5%), and Northwest Territories (-0.4%). On the plus side, wholesalers in Newfoundland (+3.0%) continued to benefit from that province's flourishing oil and gas ventures, notably the Terra Nova project. Wholesale sales for Newfoundland rose 10.5% over April 1999. In Saskatchewan, sales rose 3.3% in April, making it the fourth consecutive monthly increase for that province.

Wholesale sales continue to rise in Newfoundland



Primary sectors take a hit

Wholesale sales for lumber and building materials (-8.5%) and metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies (-3.4%) fell in April. Both of these sectors have been falling since late 1999, following a period of generally increasing sales starting mid 1998. Demand from Canadian wholesalers in these sectors seems to be softening nationally and internationally. The international softening was illustrated by lower Canadian exports of lumber and sawmill products (-1.5%). April also saw a decline of 8.9% in the value of building permits, spurred on by declines in both the residential (-15.2%) and commercial (-4.3%) sectors. The value of building permits in the United States was also down in April.

Farm machinery, equipment and supplies also fell 5.4%. In addition, this sector was the only one to report a year-over-year decline (-5.6%). Despite the drop, however, wholesale sales in the farm machinery, equipment and supplies sector have generally stabilized since mid-1999, following generally dropping sales since the fall of 1997.

Consumer goods benefit from a booming economy

Wholesale sales in the consumer goods sectors such as computers and software (+4.2%), household goods (+2.8%), and motor vehicles (+1.6%) all rose in April. Wholesale sales of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery have seen a turnaround since the beginning of 2000 after diminishing sales since mid-1999. However, inventories for these wholesalers continued to fall (-2.4%) for the third consecutive month. Wholesalers in this sector continued to sell

off inventories to meet demand, as the shortage of electronic parts and components continued.

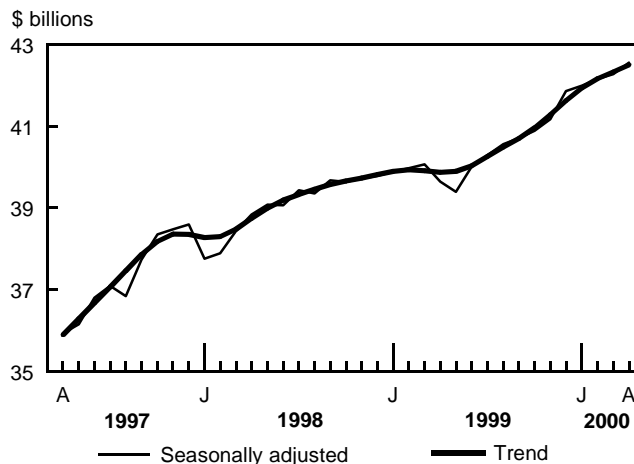
Wholesale sales in the household goods sector have been generally climbing since the start of 1999. Sales in this sector have risen 10.9% since April 1999. Strong consumer demand in Canada and the United States may be aiding this buoyancy. Imports of home furnishings also rose 2.7% in April.

Inventory values advance

Inventories held by wholesalers rose 0.7% to \$42.6 billion. Despite some moderation in the advance between spring 1998 and spring 1999, inventory values have been rising over the last several years. Rising inventories were reported in 7 of the 11 trade groups. Important increases were noted in metals, hardware and plumbing equipment (+1.8%), up 13.1% from April 1999; motor vehicles (+1.4%), up 16.5%; and lumber and building materials (+1.2%), up 14.3%.

Inventory-to-sales ratio rose from 1.34 in March to 1.35 in April. After a period of declining ratios since mid-1998, the ratio has been generally level off since mid-1999.

Inventory values advance



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

The April 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 (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; wholesaleinfo@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Alexander Hays (613-951-3552; haysale@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division. □

Wholesale merchants' sales and inventories

	April 1999 ^r	Jan. 2000 ^f	Feb. 2000 ^f	March 2000 ^f	April 2000 ^p	March to April 2000	April 1999 to April 2000
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions					% change	
Sales, all trade groups	29,083	31,354	31,000	31,613	31,559	-0.2	8.5
Food products	4,597	4,688	4,714	4,746	4,761	0.3	3.5
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	1,826	1,899	1,888	1,920	1,914	-0.3	4.8
Apparel and dry goods	531	531	517	543	537	-1.1	1.2
Household goods	802	879	836	865	889	2.8	10.9
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	5,357	6,151	6,165	6,254	6,357	1.6	18.7
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	1,903	2,142	2,025	2,079	2,008	-3.4	5.5
Lumber and building materials	2,300	2,564	2,441	2,544	2,329	-8.5	1.3
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	629	594	488	627	593	-5.4	-5.6
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	4,308	4,731	4,777	4,878	4,876	0.0	13.2
Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery	2,915	2,881	2,814	2,797	2,914	4.2	0.0
Other products	3,915	4,296	4,335	4,359	4,382	0.5	11.9
Sales by province and territory							
Newfoundland	207	224	225	222	229	3.0	10.5
Prince Edward Island	48	51	53	53	55	3.9	14.1
Nova Scotia	599	529	578	574	558	-2.9	-6.9
New Brunswick	366	404	400	403	412	2.2	12.5
Quebec	6,057	6,367	6,118	6,437	6,321	-1.8	4.4
Ontario	14,401	15,580	15,512	15,697	15,769	0.5	9.5
Manitoba	896	898	890	869	899	3.5	0.3
Saskatchewan	818	919	959	974	1,006	3.3	23.0
Alberta	2,624	2,989	2,969	3,024	2,972	-1.7	13.3
British Columbia	3,042	3,369	3,263	3,335	3,315	-0.6	9.0
Yukon	10	10	10	10	9	-10.5	-9.0
Northwest Territories	12	12	19	13	13	-0.4	3.1
Nunavut	2	3	3	2	2	1.0	6.4
Inventories, all trade groups	39,643	41,994	42,151	42,271	42,553	0.7	7.3
Food products	2,662	2,897	2,823	2,858	2,814	-1.5	5.7
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	2,224	2,346	2,387	2,408	2,426	0.8	9.1
Apparel and dry goods	1,246	1,141	1,139	1,100	1,067	-3.0	-14.3
Household goods	1,546	1,544	1,531	1,491	1,510	1.2	-2.4
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	5,692	6,443	6,630	6,538	6,630	1.4	16.5
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	3,492	3,737	3,823	3,880	3,949	1.8	13.1
Lumber and building materials	3,625	4,019	4,059	4,094	4,143	1.2	14.3
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	2,138	2,017	2,018	2,014	1,998	-0.8	-6.6
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	9,556	10,198	10,199	10,325	10,435	1.1	9.2
Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery	2,280	2,494	2,460	2,432	2,373	-2.4	4.1
Other products	5,183	5,157	5,081	5,133	5,207	1.5	0.5

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

OTHER RELEASES

Natural gas sales

April 2000 (preliminary)

Natural gas sales totalled 6 169 million cubic metres, up 10.5% from April 1999. Colder-than-normal temperatures throughout most of Canada resulted in higher sales to the residential (+9.7%) and commercial (+6.1%) sectors. Use by the industrial sector (including direct sales) rose 12.0% over April 1999. This increase was due to higher demand for natural gas by electric utilities and the chemical industry.

Year-to-date sales were up 6.2% over the same period in 1999. Industrial sector sales (including direct sales) posted a 12.8% increase over April 1999. Consumption by the residential and commercial sectors both decreased 1.1% and 1.8%, respectively.

Natural gas sales

	April 2000 ^P	April 1999	April 1999 to April 2000 % change
	thousands of cubic metres		
Natural gas sales	6 169 196	5 581 005	10.5
Residential	1 364 676	1 244 465	9.7
Commercial	938 768	885 062	6.1
Industrial	1 795 936	1 669 812	12.0
Direct	2 069 816	1 781 666	
	Year-to-date		
	2000 ^P	1999	1999 to 2000 % change
	thousands of cubic metres		
Natural gas sales	30 524 478	28 747 615	6.2
Residential	7 765 659	7 854 669	-1.1
Commercial	5 416 390	5 515 612	-1.8
Industrial	7 545 651	7 482 834	12.0
Direct	9 796 778	7 894 500	

^P Preliminary figures.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1052-1055.

The April 2000 issue of *Natural gas transportation and distribution* (55-002-XIB, \$13/\$125) will be available in July. 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) or Tom Lewis (613-951-3596; talewis@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Demographic statistics

First quarter 2000 (preliminary)

Postcensal estimates as of April 1 for Canada, the provinces and the territories are now available. The population of Canada increased by an estimated 60,200 over the first quarter to 30,666,900 on April 1. As a result of increases in the number of immigrants and non-permanent residents, growth reached 0.20 %, compared with 0.18 % in the first quarter of 1999.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1, 2, 4-6, 397, 5731, 6470, 6516 and 6981 and tables 10102, 20104 and 40102.

These estimates will appear in *Quarterly demographic statistics* (91-002-XPB, \$10/\$33 and 91-002-XIB, \$8/\$25), which will be available soon. See *How to order publications*.

To obtain data, contact Lise Champagne (613-951-2320; fax: 613-951-2307; chamlis@statcan.ca), Demography Division or the nearest Regional Reference Centre. For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Daniel Larrivée (613-951-0694; fax: 613-951-2307; lardani@statcan.ca), Demography Division.

Canada's population¹

	January 1, 1999 ^{PF}	April 1, 1999 ^{PF}	January 1, 2000 ^{PP}	April 1, 2000 ^{PP}	1999	2000
					Variation in %	
Canada	30,348,542	30,404,091	30,606,659	30,666,864	0.2	0.2
Newfoundland	543,164	541,631	541,559	540,159	-0.3	-0.3
Prince Edward Island	137,427	137,500	138,837	138,953	0.1	0.1
Nova Scotia	937,615	937,751	942,017	942,177	0.0	0.0
New Brunswick	753,816	754,103	756,625	756,990	0.0	0.0
Quebec	7,334,405	7,338,592	7,357,269	7,360,445	0.1	0.0
Ontario	11,431,503	11,463,544	11,575,079	11,612,101	0.3	0.3
Manitoba	1,139,567	1,141,484	1,145,900	1,147,583	0.2	0.1
Saskatchewan	1,027,865	1,027,850	1,027,172	1,026,214	0.0	-0.1
Alberta	2,935,753	2,948,070	2,978,804	2,989,999	0.4	0.4
British Columbia	4,008,775	4,014,730	4,043,658	4,052,434	0.1	0.2
Yukon	30,816	30,566	30,343	30,218	-0.8	-0.4
Northwest Territories	41,141	41,393	42,056	42,170	0.6	0.3
Nunavut	26,695	26,877	27,340	27,421	0.7	0.3

^{PF} Updated postcensal estimates.

^{PP} Preliminary postcensal estimates.

¹ These estimates take into account the 1996 Census results.

Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation

May 2000

Manufacturers shipped 2 258 032 square metres of R12 factor (RSI 2.1) mineral wool batts in May, 23.9% less than the 2 968 002 square metres shipped in May 1999, but 3.0% more than the 2 192 837 square metres in April 2000.

Year-to-date shipments to the end of May totalled 10 172 367 square metres, down 26.7% from the same period in 1999.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 40 and 122 (series 32-33).

The May 2000 issue of *Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation* (44-004-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 Bob Traversy (613-951-3531; travrob@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Export and import price indexes

April 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 April 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 April 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: 3618, 3619, 3651, 3685, 8430-8435, and 8438-8447.

The April 2000 issue of *Canadian international merchandise trade* (65-001-XPB, \$19/\$188; 65-001-XIB, \$14/\$141) will be available soon. 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), International Trade Division. ■

Refined petroleum products

April 2000 (preliminary)

Data on the production, inventories and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for April. Other selected data about these products are also available.

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

Financial flow accounts

First quarter 2000

New data on financial flow accounts for the first quarter are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 701-726, 728-735, 737-744, 748-750, 796 and 797.

The first quarter 2000 issue of *Financial flow accounts, tables and analytical document*, (13-014-PPB, \$50/\$180) are now available. At 8:30 a.m.

on release day, the complete financial flow accounts can also be obtained on diskette. The diskettes (13-014-XDB \$300/\$1200) can also be purchased at a lower cost seven business days after the release date. To purchase any of these products, contact the client services officer (613-951-3810; iead-info-dcrd@statcan.ca), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the information officer (613-951-3640), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation,
May 2000
Catalogue number 44-004-XIB (\$5/\$47).

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

Catalogue numbers with an -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; and -XPB or -XPE denote a paper version.

How to order publications

Order publications by phone:

Please refer to the • Title • Catalogue number • Volume number • Issue number • Your VISA or MasterCard number.

In Canada and the United States call: **1-800-267-6677**
From other countries call: **1-613-951-7277**
To fax your order: **1-877-287-4369**
Address changes or account inquiries: **1-800-700-1033**

To order a publication by mail write: Statistics Canada, Circulation Management, Dissemination Division, Ottawa, K1A 0T6. Include a cheque or money order payable to **Receiver General of Canada/Publications**. Canadian customers add 7% GST and applicable PST.

To order by Internet: write to order@statcan.ca or download an electronic version by accessing Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca), under the headings *Products and services*, *Downloadable publications*.

Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.

Catalogue 11-001E (F) Article 11-001E/ISSN 0924-6460

The Daily
Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 3, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Discusses the attitudes on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about 4.5 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 noticeably weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

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

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

Statistics Canada

Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001E.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-H, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at <http://www.statcan.ca>. To receive *The Daily* each morning by E-mail, send an E-mail message to listproc@statcan.ca. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Editor: Tom Vradenburg (613-951-1103, vradtom@statcan.ca)

Head of Official Release: Madeleine Simard (613-951-1088, simamad@statcan.ca)

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2000. Citation in newsprint, magazine, radio, and television reporting is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source. Any other reproduction is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source on all copies as follows: Statistics Canada, *The Daily*, catalogue 11-001E, along with date and page references.

REGIONAL REFERENCE CENTRES

Statistics Canada's Regional Reference Centres offer a full range of the Agency's products and services. Each reference centre is equipped with a library and sales counter where you can consult or purchase publications, diskettes, CD-ROM discs, microfiche, maps and more.

Each centre has facilities to retrieve information from CANSIM, Statistics Canada's data retrieval system. A telephone inquiry service is available with toll-free access for those located outside local calling areas. Many other valuable services—from seminars to consultations—are also offered. For information, contact your nearest Regional Reference Centre.

Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
1741 Brunswick Street
2nd Floor, Box 11
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 3X8
Local calls: (902) 426-5331
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-902-426-9538
E-mail: atlantic.info@statcan.ca

Quebec and Nunavut

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
4th Floor, East Tower
Guy Favreau Complex
200 René Lévesque Blvd. W.
Montréal, Québec
H2Z 1X4
Local calls: (514) 283-5725
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-514-283-9350

National Capital Region

Statistical Reference Centre (NCR)
Statistics Canada
Lobby, R.H. Coats Building
Holland Avenue
Tunney's Pasture
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0T6
Local calls: (613) 951-8116
Fax: 1-613-951-0581
E-mail: infostats@statcan.ca

Ontario

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
10th Floor
Arthur Meighen Building
25 St. Clair Avenue East
Toronto, Ontario
M4T 1M4
Local calls: (416) 973-6586
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-416-973-7475

Manitoba

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Via Rail Building, Suite 200
123 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3C 4V9
Local calls: (204) 983-4020
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-204-983-7543
E-mail: statswpg@solutions.net

Saskatchewan

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Park Plaza, Suite 440
2365 Albert Street
Regina, Saskatchewan
S4P 4K1
Local calls: (306) 780-5405
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-306-780-5403
E-mail: statcan@sk.sympatico.ca

Southern Alberta

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Discovery Place, Room 201
3553-31 Street N.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T2L 2K7
Local calls: (403) 292-6717
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-403-292-4958
E-mail: degagnej@cadvision.com

Northern Alberta and the Northwest Territories

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
15th Floor, Park Square
10001 Bellamy Hill
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 3B6
Local calls: (780) 495-3027
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-780-495-5318
E-mail:
Johane.Tremblay@a.statcan.ca

British Columbia and the Yukon

Advisory Services
Statistics Canada
Library Square Tower, Suite 600
300 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6B 6C7
Local calls: (604) 666-3691
Toll free: 1-800-263-1136
Fax: 1-604-666-4863

National toll-free enquiries line (Canada and the United States): 1-800-263-1136
Toll-free order-only line (Canada and the United States): 1-800-267-6677
Toll-free fax order line (Canada and the United States): 1-877-287-4369
Toll-free telecommunications device for the hearing impaired: 1-800-363-7629