

Wednesday, July 5, 2000
For release at 8:30 a.m.

## MAJOR RELEASES

- Building permits, May 2000

The value of building permits issued by municipalities declined $0.8 \%$ to $\$ 2.9$ billion in May. This slight decrease was attributable solely to the non-residential sector.

OTHER RELEASES
Quarterly retail commodity survey, first quarter 2000 ..... 6
Estimates of labour income, April 2000 ..... 7
Department store sales and stocks, May 2000 ..... 8
Railway carloadings, seven-day period ending June 7, 2000 ..... 9
(continued on following page)

## Extraction system of agricultural statistics on CD-ROM 2000

The Extraction system of agricultural statistics (ESAS) on CD-ROM offers an extensive collection of the most requested physical and financial data on farming. This product is a co-operative effort between Statistics Canada and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

ESAS enables extraction of data by Census Agricultural Region, farm type and revenue class. The 2000 version contains a full year of new data, as well as an online user guide and reference manual.

ESAS lets you reorganize your report, perform calculations and create graphs. You can also view selected tables on-screen, print them or export them for use in other applications. Whether you are interested in dairy production in Quebec or off-farm income in Saskatchewan, ESAS provides desktop access to all the data.

The CD-ROM Extraction system of agricultural statistics (21F0001XCB, \$625) is now available. An update can be purchased for $\$ 295$. A $50 \%$ educational discount is also available. To order, contact your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre or call toll-free 1-800-267-6677. For more information, contact Linda Brazeau (613-951-5027; linda.brazeau@statcan.ca) or call Statistics Canada's Agriculture Division toll-free (1-800-465-1991; agriculture@statcan.ca).

The Daily, July 5, 2000
REGIONAL REFERENCE CENTRES 11

The Daily, July 5, 2000

- End of release


## MAJOR RELEASES

## Building permits

May 2000
The value of building permits issued by municipalities declined $0.8 \%$ to $\$ 2.9$ billion in May. This slight decrease was attributable solely to the non-residential sector.

Residential building permits gained 6.7\% to $\$ 1.6$ billion in May, the result of higher intentions for both multi- and single-family dwellings.

At the same time, a significant decline in commercial projects led the non-residential building permits to a $9.3 \%$ loss in May to $\$ 1.2$ billion.

Construction intentions totalled $\$ 15.4$ billion between January and May, up $9.3 \%$ over the same period of 1999, and the best showing for the first five months of any year since 1990. Both the residential and non-residential sectors took part in this advance.

Total value of permits was down again in May


## Both components of residential sector rose

Gains in both the multi- and single-family dwelling components contributed to the recovery in residential intentions in May. The value of building permits for multi-family dwellings was up $20.0 \%$ to $\$ 441$ million. As well, construction intentions for single-family dwellings

## Note to readers

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which eases comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations.

The Building and Demolitions Permits Monthly Survey covers 2,600 municipalities representing $94 \%$ of the population. It provides an early indication of building activity. The communities representing the other $6 \%$ of the population are very small, and their levels of building activity have little impact on the total.

The value of planned construction activities shown in this release excludes engineering projects (e.g., water works, sewers and culverts) and land.
rose $2.5 \%$ to $\$ 1.2$ billion, after three consecutive monthly declines.

Several factors point to a promising housing market for the next few months. The lowest unemployment rate since 1976 combined with increased economic activity, including housing resale, will probably more than compensate for the effect of higher mortgage rates and prices for new housing.

Among the provinces, growth in housing intentions in Ontario (+13.2 \% to \$831 million) and British Columbia (+20.1\% to $\$ 199$ million) was responsible for most of the overall gain in the value of residential building permits. In both cases, the advance resulted from gains in both single- and multi-family dwellings. Declines occurred in Quebec (-8.2\% to $\$ 232$ million) and in Alberta (-4.3\% to $\$ 240$ million). It was the fifth consecutive monthly decline in residential intentions in Quebec.

On a year-to-date basis, the total value of residential permits reached $\$ 8.5$ billion during the first five months of $2000,9.0 \%$ higher than in the same period last year. This gain was the result of a significant (+14.1) increase in single-family dwelling intentions. In contrast, multi-family dwelling intentions were down 4.1\%.

Among the provinces, the largest year-to-date gains in dollar terms were posted in Ontario (+10.9\%), Alberta (+12.7\%) and Quebec (+9.0\%). While both components pushed up the intentions in Alberta, the single-family dwelling component was the sole contributor to the increase in Ontario and Quebec. Declines in both single- and multi-family permits led to lower residential
construction intentions in British Columbia and New Brunswick.


## Commercial component pushed down the non-residential sector

The value of building permits in the non-residential sector declined $9.3 \%$ to $\$ 1.2$ billion in May, led by the $17.9 \%$ decrease to $\$ 616$ million in commercial intentions. The trade and services category, as well as hotels and restaurants, showed the most significant reductions.

Industrial building permits rose $2.0 \%$ to $\$ 309$ million, the result of an increase in permits for factories and plants.

Institutional intentions were virtually unchanged from April ( $+0.5 \%$ to $\$ 318$ million), led by gains in the medical and hospital category.

Among the provinces, Nova Scotia (-72.8\% to $\$ 31.1$ million) and Quebec ( $-25.8 \%$ to $\$ 222.9$ million) saw the largest monthly drops in the non-residential sector in dollar terms. Nova Scotia had seen a significant increase in April. In Quebec, all three components declined in May. The largest increase occured in British Columbia ( +29.5 to $\$ 190.1$ million), mainly as a result of gains in the institutional component.

For the first five months of 2000, the total value of building permits in the non-residential sector reached $\$ 6.8$ billion, up $9.7 \%$ over the same period in 1999. The year-to-date value for commercial building permits reached $\$ 3.8$ billion, up $12.4 \%$ over the same period last year. Meanwhile, the value of institutional building permits reached $\$ 1.5$ billion, $7.6 \%$ higher than in the first five months of 1999 and industrial projects were up $5.6 \%$ to $\$ 1.6$ billion.

Alberta showed the largest gain ( $+41.5 \%$ ) on a year-to-date basis, followed by British Columbia ( $+16.8 \%$ ). Newfoundland recorded the largest decline ( $-50.6 \%$ ), as non-residential permits were pulled down by the institutional component.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 80 (levels 3-7 and 33-48), 129, 137, 443, 989-992, 994, 995 and 4073.

The May 2000 issue of Building permits (64-001-XIB, \$19/\$186) will be available soon. See How to order publications.

The June 2000 building permit estimate will be released on August 4.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Joanne Bureau (613-951-9689; burejoa@statcan.ca). For analytical information, contact Étienne Saint-Pierre (613-951-2025; saineti@statcan.ca), Investment and Capital Stock Division.

The Daily, July 5, 2000

## Value of building permits

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April } \\ & 2000^{r} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { May } \\ 2000^{p} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { April } \\ \text { to } \\ \text { May } \\ 2000 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { May } \\ 1999 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { May } \\ 2000 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | ally adjust |  |  |
|  | \$ m |  | \% |  |
| Canada Residential Non-residential | $\begin{aligned} & 2,912.9 \\ & 1,544.0 \\ & 1,368.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{2 , 8 8 9 . 0} \\ & 1,646.9 \\ & 1,242.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} -0.8 \\ 6.7 \\ -9.3 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \hline 0.8 \\ -1.8 \\ 4.5 \end{array}$ |
| Newfoundland Residential Non-residential | $\begin{array}{r} 24.5 \\ 14.6 \\ 9.9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 18.4 \\ 10.9 \\ 7.6 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -25.0 \\ & -25.8 \\ & -23.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 22.7 \\ 1.3 \\ 76.3 \end{array}$ |
| Prince Edward Island Residential Non-residential | $\begin{array}{r} 12.7 \\ 7.6 \\ 5.1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 5.2 \\ & 2.7 \\ & 2.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -58.6 \\ & -64.8 \\ & -49.3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -52.1 \\ & -61.1 \\ & -37.1 \end{aligned}$ |
| Nova Scotia Residential Non-residential | $\begin{array}{r} 160.1 \\ 45.7 \\ 114.4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 81.6 \\ & 50.4 \\ & 31.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} -49.0 \\ 10.3 \\ -72.8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1.1 \\ 21.0 \\ -20.2 \end{array}$ |
| New Brunswick Residential Non-residential | $\begin{aligned} & 36.9 \\ & 23.0 \\ & 13.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 37.7 \\ & 21.6 \\ & 16.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2.3 \\ -6.1 \\ 16.2 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} -7.3 \\ -17.1 \\ 10.0 \end{array}$ |
| Quebec Residential Non-residential | $\begin{aligned} & 552.8 \\ & 252.4 \\ & 300.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 454.5 \\ & 231.6 \\ & 222.9 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} -17.8 \\ -8.2 \\ -25.8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 11.9 \\ -2.9 \\ 33.0 \end{array}$ |
| Ontario Residential Non-residential | $\begin{array}{r} 1,262.5 \\ 734.0 \\ 528.5 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1,349.2 \\ 830.7 \\ 518.4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 6.9 \\ 13.2 \\ -1.9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -2.0 \\ & -2.3 \\ & -1.7 \end{aligned}$ |
| Manitoba Residential Non-residential | $\begin{aligned} & 61.9 \\ & 27.6 \\ & 34.3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 63.8 \\ & 30.5 \\ & 33.3 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2.9 \\ 10.2 \\ -2.9 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} -1.8 \\ 16.5 \\ -14.1 \end{array}$ |
| Saskatchewan Residential Non-residential | $\begin{aligned} & 57.3 \\ & 20.7 \\ & 36.6 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 49.7 \\ & 23.7 \\ & 26.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} -13.1 \\ 14.4 \\ -28.7 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19.7 \\ & -3.2 \\ & 52.5 \end{aligned}$ |
| Alberta Residential Non-residential | $\begin{aligned} & 427.0 \\ & 250.3 \\ & 176.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 431.8 \\ & 239.6 \\ & 192.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 1.1 \\ -4.3 \\ 8.8 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 10.7 \\ 2.9 \\ 22.2 \end{array}$ |
| British Columbia Residential Non-residential | $\begin{aligned} & 312.4 \\ & 165.6 \\ & 146.8 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 389.0 \\ & 198.9 \\ & 190.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 24.5 \\ & 20.1 \\ & 29.5 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & -7.9 \\ & -7.2 \\ & -8.7 \end{aligned}$ |
| Yukon Residential Non-residential | $\begin{aligned} & 2.7 \\ & 1.3 \\ & 1.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.0 \\ & 1.6 \\ & 0.4 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} -27.6 \\ 23.8 \\ -74.4 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} -24.1 \\ 9.5 \\ -67.7 \end{array}$ |
| Northwest Territories Residential Non-residential | $\begin{aligned} & 1.3 \\ & 0.6 \\ & 0.7 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 2.6 \\ & 1.5 \\ & 1.1 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 94.4 \\ 129.7 \\ 60.1 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 38.3 \\ 362.3 \\ -30.0 \end{array}$ |
| Nunavut Residential Non-residential | $\begin{aligned} & 0.8 \\ & 0.6 \\ & 0.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 3.5 \\ & 3.3 \\ & 0.2 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} 362.9 \\ 440.9 \\ 44.0 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} -66.1 \\ 17.5 \\ -97.2 \end{array}$ |

[^0]$p$ Preliminary data.
Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

## OTHER RELEASES

## Quarterly retail commodity survey <br> First quarter 2000 (preliminary)

Shoppers rang up $\$ 59.3$ billion in retail sales in the first quarter. They spent the largest proportion, 30\% or $\$ 17.7$ billion, on motor vehicles, parts and service, followed by food and beverages ( $23 \%$ or $\$ 13.9$ billion). Consumers spent more on automotive fuels, oils and additives than they did on clothing, footwear and accessories, health and personal care products or home furnishings and electronics. (All data in this release are not adjusted for seasonality.)

Sales by commodity, all retail stores

|  | First quarter $2000^{p}$ |
| :---: | :---: |
|  | unadjusted |
|  | \$ millions |
| Commodity <br> Food and beverages Health and personal care products | 13,855 4,462 |
| Clothing, footwear and accessories | 4,698 |
| Home furnishings and electronics | 4,379 |
| Motor vehicles, parts and service | 17,737 |
| Automotive fuels, oils and additives | 4,808 |
| All other goods and services | 9,383 |
| Total | 59,322 |

p Preliminary data.
Of every $\$ 100$ consumers spent at retail stores in the first quarter, they spent $\$ 15$ for new motor vehicles, $\$ 7$ for used vehicles, $\$ 8$ for automotive fuels, $\$ 4.50$ for tires and other parts and accessories, and $\$ 3.50$ for labour receipts. (Sales of new motor vehicles includes the full selling price, including leased vehicles at their full selling price.)

Of the $\$ 13.9$ billion spent on food and beverages, $82 \%$ was spent on food, $12 \%$ on
alcoholic beverages and $6 \%$ on non-alcoholic beverages. Consumers bought $89 \%$ of their food from supermarkets and grocery stores. They also bought a large proportion of "non-traditional" products from these stores: $30 \%$ of their over-the-counter drugs, $12 \%$ of their prescription drugs, $62 \%$ of their tobacco products, $50 \%$ of their household cleaning supplies and $30 \%$ of their nursery stock and cut flowers.

Consumers spent $\$ 4.7$ billion on clothing, footwear and accessories: 78\% was for clothing and accessories, $14 \%$ was for footwear, $7 \%$ was for jewellery and watches and $1 \%$ was for luggage. Of the total spent on clothing, $56 \%$ was for women's clothing and accessories $28 \%$ was for men's, $13 \%$ was for boys, girls and infants' clothing, and $2 \%$ was for unisex clothing. Shoppers tended to buy most of their clothing, footwear and accessories from specialty clothing and shoe stores (54\%), and to a lesser extent from department and general merchandise stores (30\%).

Shoppers spent $\$ 4.4$ billion on home furnishings and electronics. Most of these items were purchased from specialty stores, with a few exceptions. Shoppers purchased most of their bedding, linens and bathroom accessories ( $76 \%$ ) from general merchandise stores (which includes department stores). Seventy-six percent of all small electrical appliances were purchased from general merchandise and auto supply stores. Fifty-one percent of nursery furniture and equipment (this includes mattresses, carriages and strollers) was bought in a general merchandise store.

Revised data for 1998 and 1999 will be available in the fall with the next release of the Quarterly Retail Commodity Survey. For more data, contact the Client Services Unit of Distributive Trades Division (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Leslie Kiss (613-951-3556), Distributive Trades Division.

## Commodity share of sales within store types

First quarter 2000

|  | Food stores | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Drug } \\ \text { stores } \end{array}$ | Clothing and shoe stores | Household furniture, appliance and household furnishing stores | General merchandise and automotive parts, accessories and service stores | Other retail stores | All retail stores |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | \% |  |  |  |
| Commodities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Food and beverages | 77.9 | 5.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | 11.6 | 6.0 | 23.4 |
| Health and personal care products | 6.0 | 82.1 | 1.3 | 0.0 | 6.7 | 1.2 | 7.5 |
| Clothing, footwear and accessories | 0.3 | 0.5 | 90.7 | 0.0 | 15.0 | 2.5 | 7.9 |
| Home furnishings and electronics | 0.4 | 3.4 | 1.5 | 86.6 | 12.8 | 1.0 | 7.4 |
| Motor vehicles, parts and service | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 26.8 | 57.0 | 29.9 |
| Automotive fuels, oils and additives | 2.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 2.1 | 16.2 | 8.1 |
| All other goods and services | 13.2 | 8.9 | 6.5 | 12.7 | 24.9 | 16.2 | 15.8 |
| Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

Commodity share of sales across store types
First quarter 2000

|  | Food | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Drug } \\ \text { stores } \end{array}$ | Clothing and shoe stores | Household furniture, appliance and household furnishing stores | General merchandise and automotive parts, accessories and service stores | Other retail stores | $\begin{array}{r} \text { All } \\ \text { retail } \\ \text { stares } \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  | \% |  |  |  |
| Commodities |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Food and beverages | 79.3 | 1.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 7.9 | 11.5 | 100.0 |
| Health and personal care | 18.9 | 59.1 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 14.2 | 6.9 | 100.0 |
| Clothing, footwear and accessories | 1.0 | 0.3 | 53.9 | 0.0 | 30.3 | 14.4 | 100.0 |
| Home furnishings and electronics | 1.4 | 2.5 | 0.9 | 61.4 | 27.7 | 6.1 | 100.0 |
| Motor vehicles, parts and service | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 14.3 | 85.6 | 100.0 |
| Automotive fuels, oils and additives | 6.2 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 4.2 | 89.6 | 100.0 |
| All other goods and services | 19.9 | 3.0 | 1.9 | 4.2 | 25.1 | 45.8 | 100.0 |
| Total | 23.8 | 5.4 | 4.7 | 5.2 | 15.9 | 44.9 | 100.0 |

## Estimates of labour income

April 2000 (preliminary)
Labour income rose 3.3\% in April. The significant growth in both labour income and in wages and salaries, a subset of labour income, occurred because of federal government pay equity payments. If the impact of these payments were removed, labour income would have increased $0.3 \%$, similar to the gain $0.4 \%$ gain recorded in March. April's growth marked the 15th consecutive monthly gain in labour income.

Wages and salaries increased in 10 of the 16 industry groups; the strongest gains were in federal and other government administration. Manufacturing and commercial and personal services continued to post increases in wages and salaries, pushed by growth in employment.

The overall growth in wages and salaries was slightly moderated by declines in the trade, finance, insurance and real estate and local administration industry groups. The latter was affected by a work stoppage in by Toronto municipal workers.

Note: Labour income consists of wages and salaries ( $88 \%$ ), plus supplementary labour income (12\%). Wages and salaries include items such as bonuses, gratuities, taxable allowances and retroactive wage payments. Supplementary labour income is employers' contributions to employee welfare, pension, workers' compensation and employment insurance plans. Labour income accounts for about $52 \%$ of gross domestic product. Users of the labour income data should note that the seasonally adjusted data are revised back to January 2000.

Wages and salaries and supplementary labour income

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { March } \\ & 2000^{r} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April } \\ & 2000^{p} \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { March } \\ \text { to } \\ \text { April } \\ 2000 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | seasonally adjusted |  |  |
|  | \$ mi |  | \% change |
| Agriculture, fishing and trapping | 321.4 | 317.6 | -1.2 |
| Logging and forestry | 276.3 | 276.5 | 0.1 |
| Mining, quarrying and oil wells | 851.7 | 859.8 | 1.0 |
| Manufacturing | 7,301.9 | 7,315.8 | 0.2 |
| Construction | 2,366.6 | 2,367.9 | 0.1 |
| Other Utilities | 617.4 | 619.7 | 0.4 |
| Transportation, storage, communications | 2,768.8 | 2,783.3 | 0.5 |
| Trade | 5,527.3 | 5,506.7 | -0.4 |
| Finance, insurance and real estate | 3,461.1 | 3,449.5 | -0.3 |
| Commercial and personal services | 6,674.0 | 6,707.1 | 0.5 |
| Educational and related services | 2,846.3 | 2,892.4 | 1.6 |
| Health and social services | 2,950.8 | 2,963.8 | 0.4 |
| Federal administration and other government |  |  |  |
| services | 881.8 | 2,202.7 | 149.8 |
| Provincial administration | 722.8 | 722.8 | 0.0 |
| Local administration | 682.8 | 658.5 | -3.6 |
| Military | 278.9 | 275.6 | -1.2 |
| Total wages and salaries | 38,530.0 | 39,919.9 | 3.6 |
| Supplementary labour income | 5,059.5 | 5,119.0 | 1.2 |
| Labour income | 43,589.5 | 45,038.8 | 3.3 |

$r$ Revised figures.
p Preliminary figures.

## Available on CANSIM: matrices 6596-6624.

The April 2000 issue of Tables and analytical document: Estimates of labour income, monthly estimates (13F0016XPB, \$20/\$200) is now available. At 8:30 a.m. on release day, data sets are available for purchase on diskette (13F0016XDB). Seven days after the official release date, these diskettes become available at a lower cost. To purchase either of these products, contact the client services officer (613-951-3640; 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 Katherine Fraser (613-951-4049; fax: 613-951-3618), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

## Department store sales and stocks

May 2000
Department store sales were almost unchanged in May compared with April, declining by $\$ 2.5$ million ( $-0.2 \%$ ) to $\$ 1,492.6$ million (seasonally adjusted). This decrease followed a $1.0 \%$ rise from March to April.

The downward movement in department store sales since the end of the summer of 1999 has stabilized in recent months. However, sales in May were 5.7\% lower than the peak of $\$ 1.58$ billion reported in August 1999. Previously, department store sales had been generally rising since early 1996, with the exception of a pause in the spring and summer of 1998.

Unadjusted department store sales in May were $1.1 \%$ lower than in May 1999. Sales in May compared with May 1999 varied considerably from one province to another. They advanced furthest in Saskatchewan (+9.7\%). Department store sales have been generally rising in Saskatchewan since the spring of 1995. The region formed by Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island ( $+5.2 \%$ ) showed the second largest year-over-year sales gain.

## Department store sales including concessions

|  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { May } \\ 1999 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { May } \\ 2000 \end{array}$ | May 1999 to May 2000 unadjust | Jan. <br> to <br> May <br> 2000 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Jan.-May } \\ 1999 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { Jan.-May } \\ 2000 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \$ mil |  | change | \$ millions | \% change |
| Canada | 1,459.9 | 1,444.5 | -1.1 | 6,133.4 | 2.3 |
| Newfoundland and Prince |  |  |  |  |  |
| Edward Island ${ }^{1}$ | 26.2 | 27.5 | 5.2 | 119.7 | 11.7 |
| Nova Scotia | 44.8 | 41.1 | -8.2 | 179.7 | 0.3 |
| New Brunswick | 31.9 | 33.0 | 3.5 | 137.4 | 7.5 |
| Quebec | 288.0 | 277.4 | -3.7 | 1,144.9 | 1.4 |
| Ontario | 623.4 | 623.8 | 0.1 | 2,625.0 | 2.8 |
| Manitoba | 59.9 | 59.6 | -0.5 | 255.1 | 1.5 |
| Saskatchewan | 47.3 | 51.9 | 9.7 | 217.7 | 9.2 |
| Alberta | 166.2 | 167.4 | 0.7 | 728.3 | 3.8 |
| British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nunavut ${ }^{1}$ | 172.3 | 162.7 | -5.6 | 725.5 | -2.5 |

1 For reasons of confidentiality, data for Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island are combined, as are data for British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
Nova Scotia reported the largest year-over-year decline ( $-8.2 \%$ ). Despite this decrease, department store sales in Nova Scotia have been generally advancing since the fall of 1996. The region formed by British Columbia, Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut registered a $5.6 \%$ year-over-year decline. Sales in that region have been almost unchanged since the spring of 1998. Quebec ( $-3.7 \%$ ) and Manitoba
$(-0.5 \%)$ are the other provinces that saw a decline in sales over the same period.

Department store sales figures, not adjusted for seasonality, show that the large urban centres - the Census Metropolitan Areas (CMAs) of Halifax-Dartmouth, Quebec City, Montreal, Ottawa-Hull, Toronto, Hamilton, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver - have evolved differently than other areas. Between August 1999 and May 2000, the large urban centres as a group recorded a 13.9\% decline in the number of locations and a $7.9 \%$ drop in department store sales. In other areas other than the large CMAs, the decline in the number of locations ( $-4.2 \%$ ) and the value of department store sales ( $0.0 \%$ ) was of a lesser magnitude.

## Department store sales including concessions in large metropolitan centres

|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } \\ & 1999 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { May } \\ 2000 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Aug. } 1999 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { May } 2000 \\ \hline \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Aug. } \\ & 1999 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { May } \\ 2000 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Aug. } 1999 \\ \text { to } \\ \text { May } 2000 \\ \hline \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | unadju | sted |  |  |
|  | \$ mill | ions | \% change | numb locati |  | \% change |
| Large metropolitan centres ${ }^{1}$ | 847.0 | 779.9 | -7.9 | 380 | 327 | -13.9 |
| Other regions | 664.6 | 664.6 | 0.0 | 407 | 390 | -4.2 |

[^1]
## Available on CANSIM: matrices 111, 112 (series 1), and 113 (series 3).

To order data, or for general information, contact the Client Services Unit (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). For analytical information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Clérance Kimanyi (613-951-6363; kimacle@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

## Railway carloadings

Seven-day period ending June 7, 2000
Non-intermodal traffic loaded during the seven-day period ending June 7 rose 3.7 \% to 4.7 million tonnes compared with the same period of 1999. The number of cars loaded increased 2.4 \%.

Intermodal traffic tonnage totalled 433000 tonnes, a 12.2 \% increase from the same period of 1999. The year-to-date figures show an advance of $16.7 \%$.

Total traffic was up 4.3 \% during the period. This brought the year-to-date total to 117.4 million tonnes, an increase of $7.3 \%$ from the same period of 1999.

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.

## NEW PRODUCTS

Estimates of labour income (diskette), monthly estimates, April 2000
Catalogue number 13F0016XDB ( $\$ 250 / \$ 1,000$ ).
Tables and analytical document: Estimates of labour income, monthly estimates, April 2000 Catalogue number 13F0016XPB ( $\$ 20 / \$ 200$ ).

Extraction system of agricultural statistics, 2000 Catalogue number 21F0001XCB (\$625 initial subscription/\$295 annual updates).

Coal and coke statistics, April 2000
Catalogue number 45-002-XIB (\$9/\$85).

Aviation service bulletin, vol. 32, no. 6
Catalogue number 51-004-XIB ( $\$ 8 / \$ 82$ ).
Electric power statistics, April 2000
Catalogue number 57-001-XIB (\$9/\$85).

## 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 products

Order products by phone:
Please refer to the - Title - Catalogue number - Volume number - Issue number - Your VISA or MasterCard number.

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\text { In Canada and the United States call: } & 1-800-267-6677 \\
\text { From other countries call: } & 1-613-951-7277 \\
\text { To fax your order: } & 1-877-287-4369
\end{array}
$$

Address changes or account inquiries: 1-800-700-1033
To order a product by mail write: Statistics Canada, Circulation Management, Dissemination Division, Ottawa, K1A OT6.
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.


## 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 0 T6.
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
$2^{\text {nd }}$ 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
$4^{\text {th }}$ 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
$10^{\text {th }}$ 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
$15^{\text {th }}$ 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


[^0]:    $r$ Revised data.

[^1]:    1 Includes the Census Metropolitan Areas of Halifax-Dartmouth, Québec, Montréal, Ottawa-Hull, Toronto, Hamilton, Winnipeg, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver.

