



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, August 1, 2000

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Quarterly Business Conditions Survey: Manufacturing industries, July 2000** 2
Although manufacturers were somewhat less optimistic about production prospects in July's Business Conditions Survey, they remained positive about employment prospects for the coming three months. However, they started showing some concern about the current levels of new and unfilled orders.
- **Sentencing of young offenders, 1998/99** 5
Young offenders who were convicted in youth court were put in some form of custody in more than one-third of cases during the fiscal year 1998/99. However, courts still used probation as the most common form of punishment.

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MAJOR RELEASES

Quarterly Business Conditions Survey: Manufacturing industries

July 2000

In July, manufacturers were somewhat less optimistic about production prospects than they were in April and January. Even so, they did not expect this to lead to reduced employment levels. Most did not believe that the current level of finished-product inventory was a source of concern. However, they were concerned about the current levels of orders.

Fewer manufacturers expect to increase production

Manufacturers' expectations of production prospects for the coming three months were less positive in the July survey, as the balance of opinion decreased 7 points to +11. The portion of manufacturers who expected to lower production was 14%, unchanged from April. The portion expecting to increase production fell to 25% in July from 32% in April, and the portion expecting to maintain the same level of production rose from 61% from 54% in April. Manufacturers in the transportation equipment industry were the major contributors to the decrease in the balance of opinion.

The first quarter 2000 industrial capacity utilization rate for manufacturing showed that the industry was operating at 87.9% capacity, a peak not seen in more than 20 years.

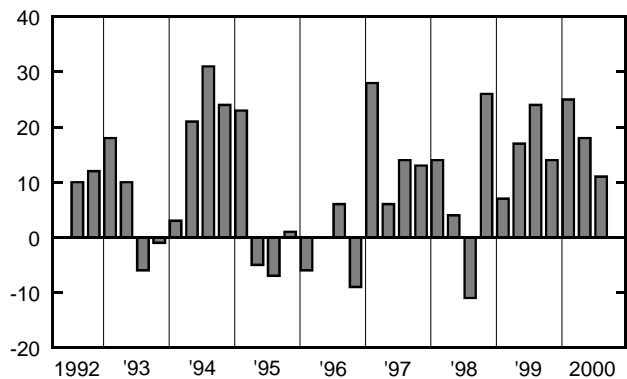
The balance of opinion of +11 was determined by subtracting the 14% of manufacturers who stated that production prospects for the coming three months would be lower from the 25% who said that prospects were higher.

Note to readers

The Business Conditions Survey is conducted in January, April, July and October; the majority of responses are recorded in the first two weeks of these months. Results are based on replies from about 4,000 manufacturers, and are weighted by a manufacturer's shipments or employment. Consequently, larger manufacturers have a correspondingly larger impact on the results than smaller manufacturers.

Data in this release are seasonally adjusted, except for the data on production difficulties.

Balance of opinion for expected volume of production, next three months versus last three months

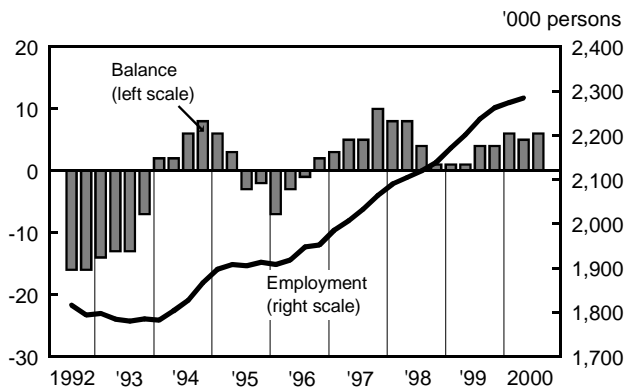


Manufacturers anticipate little change in employment levels

Seventy-four percent of manufacturers stated that their work force would be little changed in the coming three months. Sixteen percent said they would increase their work force, and 10% said they would decrease employment levels. July's +6 balance of opinion concerning employment prospects for the next three months was 1 point higher than April's balance.

The June Labour Force Survey indicated employment in manufacturing was 60,100 higher than in June 1999, an increase of 2.7%.

Balance of opinion on employment prospects during the next three months and manufacturing employment (Labour Force Survey)



Majority not concerned about finished products inventory

In the July survey, 83% of manufacturers said that their current level of finished products inventory was about right, 15% stated their inventories were too high, and 2% stated inventories were too low. The July balance of opinion was -13, a 2-point decrease from the April survey.

The Monthly Survey of Manufacturers results for May showed that finished products inventories have been rising steadily since December 1999 and were worth \$18.5 billion, an increase of 8.9% over May 1999.

Fall in satisfaction with the level of orders received slipping

Manufacturers' balance of opinion concerning their current level of orders received slipped 15 points to

+7. In July, 18% stated orders were rising, compared with 30% in April. Eleven percent said orders were declining, compared with 8% in April. Manufacturers in the transportation equipment industry were the major contributors to the decrease in the balance of opinion.

Less satisfaction with current level of unfilled orders

The balance of opinion on the current level of unfilled orders was -2 in July, a drop of 5 points from April. The proportion of manufacturers whose backlog of unfilled orders is higher than normal was 10%, down from 12% in April, and 12% reported that their unfilled orders are declining, compared with 9% in April.

The Monthly Survey of Manufacturers results for May indicated the level of unfilled orders (\$52.9 billion) fell during the first five months of 2000, from \$54.9 billion in December 1999.

Few manufacturers reported production impediments

In July, 85% of manufacturers reported an absence of production impediments, down 1 point from April's survey. A shortage of skilled labour continued to be a concern for 8% of manufacturers, unchanged from the last survey.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2843-2845.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Claude Robillard (613-951-3507; robilcg@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. □

Business Conditions Survey: Manufacturing industries

	July 1999	Oct. 1999	Jan. 2000	April 2000	July 2000
	seasonally adjusted				
Volume of production during next three months compared with last three months will be:					
About the same	52	46	47	54	61
Higher	36	34	39	32	25
Lower	12	20	14	14	14
Balance	24	14	25	18	11
Orders received are:					
About the same	60	69	62	62	71
Rising	30	25	29	30	18
Declining	10	6	9	8	11
Balance	20	19	20	22	7
Present backlog of unfilled orders is:					
About normal	74	75	81	79	78
Higher than normal	13	17	11	12	10
Lower than normal	13	8	8	9	12
Balance	0	9	3	3	-2
Finished product inventory on hand is:					
About right	82	85	84	83	83
Too low	3	4	6	3	2
Too high ¹	15	11	10	14	15
Balance	-12	-7	-4	-11	-13
Employment during the next three months will:					
Change little	70	68	72	75	74
Increase	17	18	17	15	16
Decrease	13	14	11	10	10
Balance	4	4	6	5	6
	unadjusted				
Sources of production difficulties:					
Working capital shortage	4	2	2	2	1
Skilled labour shortage	7	8	6	8	8
Unskilled labour shortage	0	2	1	2	2
Raw material shortage	3	3	2	2	2
Other difficulties	4	3	1	1	2
No difficulties	81	84	88	86	85

¹ No evident seasonality.

Sentencing of young offenders

1998/99

Young offenders aged 12 to 17 who were convicted in youth court were put in some form of custody in more than one-third of cases during the fiscal year 1998/99.

However, courts still used probation as the most common punishment for young offenders convicted of a federal offence.

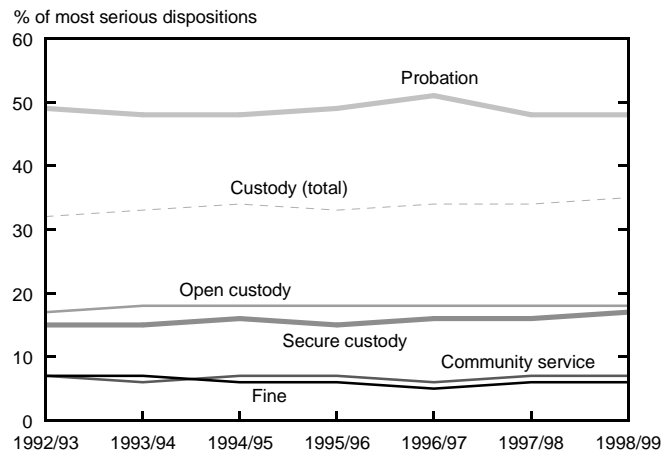
Youth courts heard 106,665 cases in 1998/99; of these, 67%, or 71,961, resulted in a conviction. Young offenders were placed in custody in 35% of these cases, while courts ordered a term of probation in 48%.

Youth court judges imposed a community service order in 7% of cases and fines in 6%. Probation was combined with a term of custody in 64% of all cases.

About half of the young offenders placed in custody went to a secure facility such as a jail. The other half went to a form of open custody in a facility such as a residential centre or group home.

Three-quarters of all cases involving custody were for terms of three months or less, and nine-tenths were for terms of six months or less. Terms of longer than one year were ordered in less than 2% of all convictions. Three-quarters of all probation orders were for terms of more than six months.

Most significant dispositions



Vast majority of convicted young offenders are male

The vast majority of young people sentenced in youth courts are male, although the proportion of females has been increasing.

In 1992/93, female offenders were involved in 16% of cases ending in convictions. Six years later, they accounted for 20%. However, in the case of several offences, females were involved at a substantially higher

Note to readers

This release is based on a Juristat from the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics that analyzes recent trends in the sentencing of young offenders, those aged 12 to 17, who have been convicted of a federal offence. The analysis is based on data released in May 2000.

It provides information on the characteristics of young offenders sentenced in court, the nature of dispositions, trends in sentencing, and comparisons of young offenders on the basis of age, sex, nature of charge, number of charges and prior convictions. In addition, this report compares the sentencing of adult and young offenders.

This Juristat is based on data from the Youth Court Survey (YCS) conducted by the Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics in collaboration with provincial and territorial government departments responsible for youth courts.

The YCS collects data from youth courts on those aged 12 to 17 at the time of offence, appearing on federal statute offences. In this report, federal statute offences include Criminal Code offences, drug offences, Young Offenders Act offences and other federal statute offences. All youth courts in Canada have reported to the YCS since 1992/93.

proportion — 32% of minor assault convictions and 30% of fraud, for example.

There were also wide variations among the provinces and territories. In the Northwest Territories, females accounted for 27% of cases ending in conviction in 1998/99, while in Quebec they accounted for only 9%.

On average, male offenders tended to be older than female offenders. About 53% of male offenders were aged 16 or 17, compared with 41% of females.

Males were more likely to be sentenced to custody or fined; 37% of males were placed into custody in 1998/99, compared with 28% of females. However, 72% of cases involving females resulted in an order for community service work, compared with 64% for males.

On an offence-by-offence basis, males generally received tougher sentences. For example, 27% of males convicted of theft of goods worth under \$5,000 were placed into custody, while 53% were put on probation. Among females, 17% were placed into custody, while 60% were put on probation.

Recidivism

Forty-two percent of young offenders sentenced in 1998/99 were considered recidivists — that is, they had previously been convicted in a youth court of at least one other federal offence since 1990.

About 12% could be considered persistent offenders — they had registered three or more previous convictions.

Repeat offenders tended to be older, and they were more likely to be male. About 44% of male offenders had prior convictions, compared with 34% of females.

Several offences had higher rates of recidivism. For example, 60% of young offenders charged with failing to appear in court had prior convictions. More than one-half of offenders convicted of possession of stolen property and theft of goods worth over \$5,000 had prior convictions.

Repeat offenders generally tended to receive tougher sentences than first-time offenders. While judges sentenced only 14% of first-time offenders into custody, they placed into custody 81% of individuals with six or more previous convictions.

Adult and youth sentencing: A comparison

A section of the *Juristat* compares the sentencing of adults and youths for a series of most common offences. Young offenders were less likely to be put into custody for the nine most common offences, such as common assault, breaking and entering, possession of stolen property and robbery. However, while young people may have a lower incarceration rate than adults, they sometimes serve longer terms of imprisonment.

For each of the nine offences examined, except robbery, young people were more likely than adults to receive a longer term of custody, that is, more than

one month. For example, in the case of common assault, 65% of young offenders were jailed for longer than one month, compared with 43% of adults.

This result was surprising, as adult offenders are more likely to have longer criminal histories that could increase the severity of their punishment.

These results should be treated with caution. The sentencing comparisons were based only on cases involving a single charge; multiple-charge cases were excluded. Early release provisions available only to adults must also be considered when interpreting this comparison.

Available on CANSIM: (unadjusted data) matrices 8900-8922.

Juristat: Sentencing of young offenders in Canada, 1998/99 (85-002-XPE, \$10/\$93; 85-002-XIE, \$8/\$70) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Client Services Unit (613-951-9023; 1-800-387-2231), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.

Dispositions imposed by youth courts 1998/99

Jurisdiction	Total	Most significant disposition						
		Secure custody	Open custody	Custody total	Probation	Fine	Community service order	Other ¹
%								
Canada	71,961	17	18	35	48	6	7	5
Newfoundland	1,748	22	21	43	50	3	1	4
Prince Edward Island	271	26	19	45	46	4	4	1
Nova Scotia	2,152	2	33	35	52	6	5	1
New Brunswick	1,741	19	13	32	60	5	1	2
Quebec	9,099	16	14	30	55	3	8	4
Ontario	24,308	20	21	42	46	3	5	5
Manitoba	4,904	16	16	32	47	6	7	7
Saskatchewan	6,683	19	16	35	48	4	12	2
Alberta	11,909	16	10	26	40	15	13	5
British Columbia	8,276	12	22	33	56	4	2	4
Yukon	260	35	7	42	40	4	-	14
Northwest Territories	610	14	23	38	39	3	2	19

¹ Other includes compensation, pay purchaser, compensation in kind, restitution, prohibition, seizure, forfeiture, conditional discharge, absolute discharge, essays, apologies and counselling programs.

- Nil or zero.



NEW PRODUCTS

Refined petroleum products, January 2000
Catalogue number **45-004-XIB** (\$16/\$155).

Refined petroleum products, January 2000
Catalogue number **45-004-XPB** (\$21/\$206).

Electric power statistics, May 2000
Catalogue number **57-001-XIB** (\$9/\$85).

Industry price indexes, May 2000
Catalogue number **62-011-XPB** (\$22/\$217).

**Juristat: Sentencing of young offenders in
Canada, 1998/99**, vol. 20, no. 7
Catalogue number **85-002-XIE** (\$8/\$70).

**Juristat: Sentencing of young offenders in
Canada, 1998/99**, vol. 20, no. 7
Catalogue number **85-002-XPE** (\$10/\$93).

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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are getting it less and less. In 1995, about 10 percent took an average of about 15 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 economic growth during the year.

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