



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, September 14, 2000

For release at 8:30 a.m.

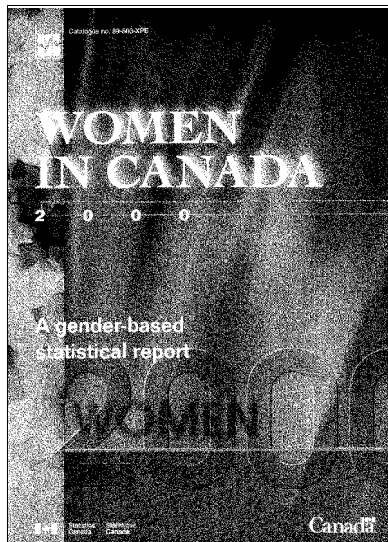
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## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **Consumer Price Index, August 2000** 3  
Canadian consumers paid 2.5% more in August for the goods and services contained in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket than they did in August 1999. This annual increase is smaller than July's 3.0% rise.
  
- **New motor vehicle sales, July 2000** 6  
New truck sales slipped in July, causing an overall decline of 1.5% in new motor vehicle sales compared with June.

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### **Women in Canada 2000**

The fourth edition of *Women in Canada*, available today, provides a comprehensive statistical profile of the evolving status of women in Canadian society, with details on their demographic characteristics, family arrangements, health, education, employment and unpaid work activity, income, housing, and criminal victimization. This 300-page report also includes separate sections describing the situations of immigrant women, women in the visible minority community, Aboriginal women and senior women.

*Women in Canada 2000* (89-503-XPE, \$45) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information on this report, contact Colin Lindsay (613-951-2603; fax: 613-951-0387; [lindcol@statcan.ca](mailto:lindcol@statcan.ca)), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division.



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## **OTHER RELEASES**

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## **NEW PRODUCTS**

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## MAJOR RELEASES

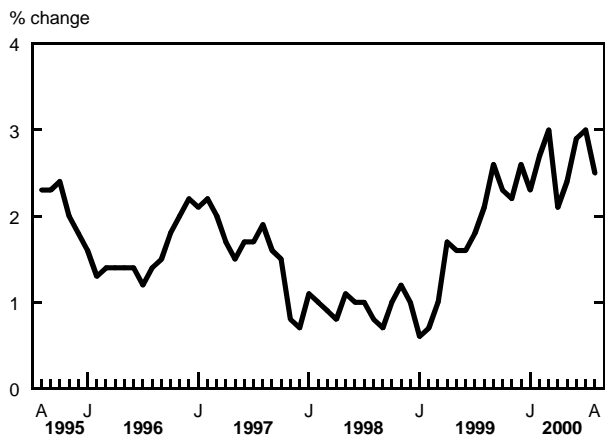
### Consumer Price Index

August 2000

Consumers paid 2.5% more in August for the goods and services contained in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket than they did in August 1999. This annual increase is smaller than July's 3.0% rise.

Energy prices were again the major contributor to the increase in the CPI, though their impact on the All-items CPI has lessened compared to what it has been since December 1999. This situation is temporary, as energy prices rose again in early September. From August 1999 to August 2000, the index for All-items excluding energy rose 1.7% following an annual increase of 1.5% in July. The annual rate of increase in the All-items excluding food and energy index has, however, shown some stability as August's 1.5% increase is within the range of 1.3% to 1.6% observed since October 1999.

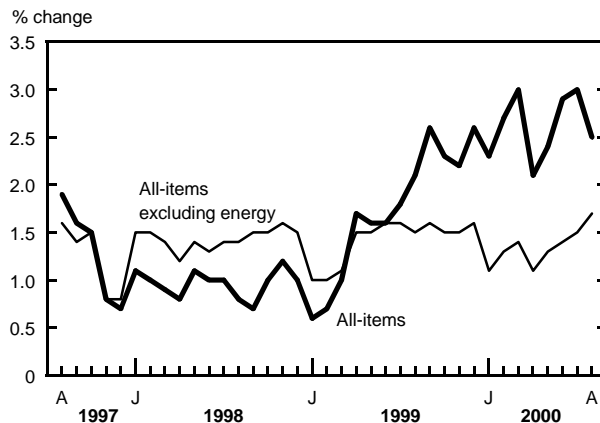
**Percentage change in the Consumer Price Index from the same month of the previous year**



Since August 1999, the prices of energy commodities were up 11.9% on average. Although the 13.4% annual rise in August 2000 in the index for gasoline is the smallest since July 1999 (+9.6%), it was responsible for most of the increase in the energy index.

For commodities other than energy, the upward pressure on the All-items CPI came in part from higher mortgage interest cost and higher prices for food purchased from restaurants and fresh vegetables. In contrast, lower prices for automotive vehicles, computer equipment and supplies, and women's clothing exerted some downward pressure on the All-items index.

**Annual change in the CPI and in the CPI excluding energy**



### Monthly decrease in CPI

After a 0.4% monthly increase from June to July, the CPI decreased 0.2% from July to August. Lower prices for gasoline, certain food items and air transportation were offset somewhat by increases in shelter costs and clothing prices.

On average, prices for gasoline decreased 3.5% from July to August, after dropping 0.3% from June to July. This is the first occurrence of consecutive monthly price decreases for gasoline since November and December 1998. Price decreases ranged from 1.1% in Saskatchewan to 5.5% in Manitoba. Only the indexes for Prince Edward Island (+6.9%) and Whitehorse (+1.0%) registered monthly increases. Prince Edward Island's Regulatory and Appeals Commission had approved a gasoline price increase owing to higher crude oil prices.

Price decreases for certain fresh fruits and vegetables have contributed to the downward pressure on the month-to-month CPI. The decreases are due to the increasing availability of crops produced in Canada. The 7.9% decrease in the case of fresh vegetables, however, was the smallest one registered for the month of August since 1988. The last 11 years have seen double-digit decreases. Poor weather this year has made for smaller domestic crops.

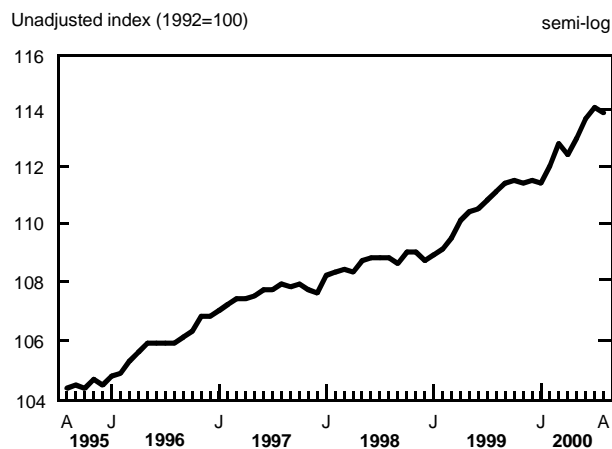
Consumers paid, on average, 1.2% less for air transportation in August. This follows an increase of 6.4% in July and a decrease of 2.7% in June.

Mortgage interest cost showed a 0.5% increase from July to August. This is the 12th consecutive month of increases for this index. Higher costs for rented

accommodation (+0.2%) also contributed to the upward pressure on the shelter index.

The clothing index was up 1.1% in August, pushed mainly by price increases for certain types of women's clothing.

### Consumer Price Index



### Available on CANSIM: matrices 9940-9956.

Data are available at 7 a.m. on Statistics Canada's Web site ([www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)).

The August 2000 issue of the *Consumer price index* (62-001-XPB, \$11/\$103) is now available. See *How to order products*.

The September Consumer Price Index will be released on October 20.

For more information or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; [infounit@statcan.ca](mailto:infounit@statcan.ca)), Prices Division. □

## Consumer Price Index and major components 1992=100

	August 2000	July 2000	August 1999	July to August 2000	August 1999 to August 2000
not seasonally adjusted					
	% change				
<b>All-items</b>	<b>113.9</b>	<b>114.1</b>	<b>111.1</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>2.5</b>
Food	113.1	113.4	110.4	-0.3	2.4
Shelter	109.0	108.7	105.0	0.3	3.8
Household operations and furnishings	110.5	110.5	109.1	0.0	1.3
Clothing and footwear	105.4	104.7	106.3	0.7	-0.8
Transportation	130.0	131.2	126.4	-0.9	2.8
Health and personal care	112.4	112.0	110.5	0.4	1.7
Recreation, education and reading	124.8	124.9	121.7	-0.1	2.5
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	98.0	98.0	94.6	0.0	3.6
Goods	111.0	111.4	108.3	-0.4	2.5
Services	117.3	117.2	114.4	0.1	2.5
All-items excluding food and energy	112.6	112.4	110.9	0.2	1.5
Energy	127.3	129.5	113.8	-1.7	11.9
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar, in cents, compared with 1992	87.8	87.6	90.0		
All-items (1986=100)	145.9				

## Consumer Price Index for the provinces, Whitehorse and Yellowknife 1992=100

	August 2000	July 2000	August 1999	July to August 2000	August 1999 to August 2000
not seasonally adjusted					
	% change				
Newfoundland	113.8	113.8	110.6	0.0	2.9
Prince Edward Island	112.5	112.0	107.2	0.4	4.9
Nova Scotia	114.0	114.1	111.1	-0.1	2.6
New Brunswick	113.3	113.4	110.0	-0.1	3.0
Quebec	111.0	111.1	108.4	-0.1	2.4
Ontario	114.4	114.7	111.6	-0.3	2.5
Manitoba	118.5	118.4	115.7	0.1	2.4
Saskatchewan	117.2	117.0	114.0	0.2	2.8
Alberta	118.3	118.2	114.3	0.1	3.5
British Columbia	114.1	114.2	111.8	-0.1	2.1
Whitehorse	115.9	115.7	113.0	0.2	2.6
Yellowknife	111.9	112.0	110.1	-0.1	1.6

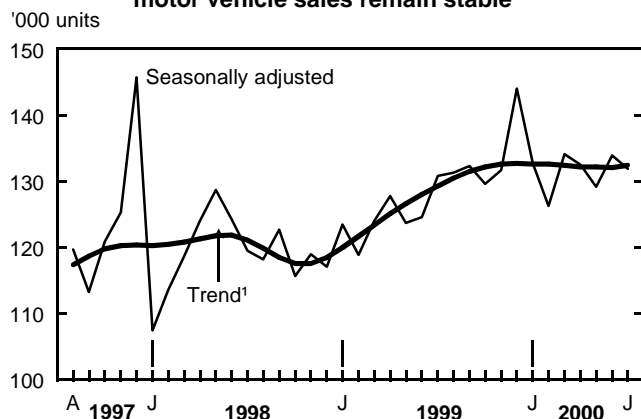
## New motor vehicle sales

July 2000

New truck sales slipped in July, causing an overall decline of 1.5% in new motor vehicle sales compared with June. In July, 131,852 vehicles were purchased, down 2,026 compared with June. This decrease in the number of vehicles sold in July followed the strong increase observed in June (+3.6%). (Unless otherwise indicated, all figures in this release are seasonally adjusted.)

New motor vehicle sales have remained generally stable since the fall of 1999, after a strong upward movement that began at the end of 1998. Overall, new motor vehicle sales were relatively stable in 1998, but with sizable monthly fluctuations.

**Despite the drop in July,  
motor vehicle sales remain stable**



<sup>1</sup> The short-term trend represents a moving average of the data.

According to preliminary figures from the auto industry, the number of new motor vehicles sold in August was up sharply, for both passenger cars and trucks.

### Fewer trucks sold

The number of new trucks sold in July declined 5.8% to 62,643 vehicles, partially offsetting June's gain. The strong advance in June (+9.6%) was largely due to the influx of consumers attracted by new incentive programs introduced by manufacturers. The substantial drop in July was the fifth monthly decline since the start of 2000.

The number of new trucks sold has remained almost unchanged since the summer of 1999. Previously, truck

### Note to readers

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted, unless otherwise indicated. Seasonally adjusted provincial data from January 1991 to present are available on CANSIM.

Passenger cars include those used for personal and commercial purposes, such as taxis or rental cars. Trucks include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans, coaches and buses.

North American-built new motor vehicles include vehicles manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico. All other new motor vehicles are considered to have been manufactured overseas.

Data for Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut have been included with the data for British Columbia.

sales had advanced throughout the first half of 1999, following a year of declines in 1998.

### Passenger car sales turn around

While new truck sales declined in July, the number of new passenger cars sold rose 2.7% compared with June, reaching 69,209 units. However, the increase in passenger car sales followed three consecutive monthly declines. The increase in July was mainly attributable to sales of North American-built passenger cars (+3.2%) and, to a lesser extent, sales of overseas-built cars (+1.3%).

Despite the increase in July, the number of new passenger cars sold has been following a downward movement since the end of 1999 after a period of growth that started in the fall of 1998. Previously, sales of new passenger cars had been generally stable since the summer of 1997.

### Sales rise in West, fall in East

In July the number of new motor vehicles sold increased in each of the western provinces, while it declined in the eastern provinces compared with June.

The largest month-over-month increase occurred in the region formed by British Columbia, Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut (+8.1%), followed by Manitoba (+6.6%). Alberta (+1.1%) and Saskatchewan (+0.3%) were the only two other provinces to report month-over-month increases in new motor vehicle sales.

In eastern Canada, Prince Edward Island (-21.0%) registered the steepest month-over-month decline.

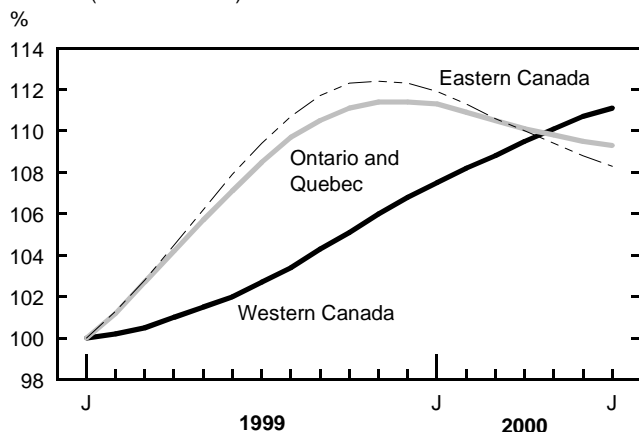
Meanwhile, in central Canada, Quebec (-1.7%) and Ontario (-3.7%) also saw their sales decline in July.

The regional picture in July generally reflects the pattern of new motor vehicle sales in Canada observed

since the start of 2000. New motor vehicle sales in the East have been moving downward since the start of 2000. However, in 1999, sales in that same region had a much better year. New motor vehicle sales in the West have been moving upward since the start of 1999, following general declines throughout 1998.

#### Trends of new motor vehicle sales by region

Indexes (Jan. 1999=100)



Eastern Canada: Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick

Western Canada: Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia (including Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut)

Among the factors that may have boosted new motor vehicle sales in the West are increased farm cash receipts for the first six months of 2000 compared with the same period in 1999, the spinoff of increased petroleum development, and the lower gasoline prices prevailing in Alberta.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 64.

The July 2000 issue of *New motor vehicle sales* (63-007-XIB, \$13/\$124) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For data or general information, contact the Client Services Unit (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; [retailinfo@statcan.ca](mailto: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](mailto:kimacle@statcan.ca)), Distributive Trades Division. □

## New motor vehicle sales

	July 1999	June 2000 <sup>r</sup>	July 2000 <sup>p</sup>	July 1999 to July 2000	June to July 2000
seasonally adjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>	<b>130,778</b>	<b>133,878</b>	<b>131,852</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>-1.5</b>
Passenger cars	66,552	67,372	69,209	4.0	2.7
North American <sup>1</sup>	50,979	50,588	52,212	2.4	3.2
Overseas	15,573	16,784	16,997	9.1	1.3
Trucks, vans and buses	64,227	66,506	62,643	-2.5	-5.8
<b>New motor vehicles</b>					
Newfoundland	2,060	2,068	1,895	-8.0	-8.4
Prince Edward Island	385	453	358	-7.0	-21.0
Nova Scotia	3,685	3,833	3,596	-2.4	-6.2
New Brunswick	3,533	3,485	3,205	-9.3	-8.0
Quebec	31,774	32,447	31,890	0.4	-1.7
Ontario	55,802	57,419	55,292	-0.9	-3.7
Manitoba	3,820	3,475	3,703	-3.1	6.6
Saskatchewan	3,003	3,179	3,188	6.2	0.3
Alberta	13,883	14,579	14,735	6.1	1.1
British Columbia <sup>2</sup>	12,832	12,940	13,990	9.0	8.1
	July 1999	June 2000	July 2000 <sup>p</sup>	July 1999 to July 2000	
unadjusted					
	number of vehicles			% change	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>	<b>130,047</b>	<b>160,645</b>	<b>129,046</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	
Passenger cars	69,033	84,131	69,409	0.5	
North American <sup>1</sup>	51,755	64,038	51,952	0.4	
Overseas	17,278	20,093	17,457	1.0	
Trucks, vans and buses	61,014	76,514	59,637	-2.3	
<b>New motor vehicles</b>					
Newfoundland	2,431	2,822	2,153	-11.4	
Prince Edward Island	492	717	432	-12.2	
Nova Scotia	3,928	5,155	3,662	-6.8	
New Brunswick	3,664	4,496	3,186	-13.0	
Quebec	34,687	39,325	33,180	-4.3	
Ontario	53,891	68,674	53,333	-1.0	
Manitoba	3,689	4,018	3,645	-1.2	
Saskatchewan	2,833	3,651	3,017	6.5	
Alberta	12,224	16,350	13,185	7.9	
British Columbia <sup>2</sup>	12,208	15,437	13,253	8.6	

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>1</sup> Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.

<sup>2</sup> Includes Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.



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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Women in Canada

2000

Canadian women have made tremendous strides in their educational attainment in the past several decades. In 1996, 12% of all women aged 15 and over had a university degree — double the figure in 1981 (6%) and four times that in 1971 (3%). Women, however, are still somewhat less likely than men to have a university degree.

The overall difference in the proportions of women and men with a university degree is likely to narrow further in the future, since women currently make up the majority of full-time students in universities. However, women's share of full-time university enrolment declines at higher levels of study. While they make up the majority of full-time students in most university departments, women continue to account for a minority of full-time enrolment in mathematics and science faculties.

In 1999, 55% of all women aged 15 and over had jobs, up from 42% in 1976. As a result, women accounted for 46% of the work force in 1999, up from 37% in 1976. A substantial proportion of employed women work part-time. In 1999, 28% of all employed women worked less than 30 hours per week, compared with just 10% of employed men.

The employment rate of women with children has grown particularly sharply in the past two decades, especially for those with preschool-aged children. By 1999, 61% of women with children less than age 3 were employed, more than double the figure in 1976.

The majority of employed women continue to work in occupations in which women have traditionally been concentrated. In 1999, 70% of all employed women were working in teaching, nursing and related health occupations, clerical or other administrative positions, and sales and service occupations. The proportion of women employed in traditionally female-dominated occupations, however, has slowly declined since 1987, when 74% were in such jobs.

Women have increased their representation in several professional fields in recent years. In 1999, women made up 49% of business and financial professionals, up from 41% in 1987. Women also made up 47% of all doctors and dentists in 1999, up from 44% in 1987. Women have also increased their share of total employment in managerial positions from 29% in 1987 to 35% in 1999. In contrast, only 20% of professionals employed in the natural sciences, engineering, and mathematics in 1999 were women, a figure that has changed little since 1987 (17%).

Even when employed, women are still largely responsible for looking after their homes and families. In 1998, women employed full-time with a spouse and at least one child under age 19 at home spent 4.9 hours per day on unpaid work activities, an hour and a half more per day than their male counterparts.

Women make up a disproportionate share of those with low incomes. In 1997, 2.8 million women, 19% of the total female population, were living in low-income situations, compared with 16% of the male population. Also in 1997, almost half of unattached senior women (49%) and 56% of all families headed by lone-parent mothers had incomes which fell below the low-income cut-offs.

The average earnings of employed women are still substantially lower than those of men. In 1997, women working full-time, full-year had average earnings of just under \$31,000, or 73% of their male counterparts' earnings. However, the average earnings of these women is up from 68% in 1990 and around 64% in the early 1980s.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Colin Lindsay (613-951-2603; fax: 613-951-0387; [lindcol@statcan.ca](mailto:lindcol@statcan.ca)), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division. ■

### Steel primary forms

Week ending September 9, 2000 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending September 9 totalled 313 203 tonnes, down 2.7% from 322 052 tonnes a week earlier and down 1.6% from 318 444 tonnes a year earlier. The year-to-date total at the end of the reference week was 11 795 452 tonnes, a 5.7% increase compared with 11 160 395 tonnes for the same period in 1999.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Julie Mayer (613-951-4924; [mayerjul@statcan.ca](mailto:mayerjul@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

### Steel wire and specified wire products

July 2000

Shipments of steel wire and specified wire products totalled 69 421 tonnes in July, up 2.0% from 68 093 tonnes in July 1999. Production and export market data for selected commodities are also available.

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**Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (series 19).**

The July 2000 issue of *Steel wire and specified wire products* (41-006-XIB, \$5/\$47) 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 Greg Milsom (613-951-7093; [milsomg@statcan.ca](mailto:milsomg@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

**Steel primary forms**

July 2000

Steel primary forms production for July totalled 1 417 288 tonnes, an increase of 5.1% from 1 347 879 tonnes in July 1999.

Year-to-date production reached 9 969 850 tonnes, up 6.5% from 9 359 104 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. ■

**Shipments of rolled steel**

July 2000

Rolled steel shipments for July totalled 1 018 650 tonnes, down 22.6% from 1 316 252 tonnes in June and down 7.1% from 1 096 764 tonnes in July 1999.

Year-to-date shipments at the end of July totalled 8 811 148 tonnes, up 1.7% from 8 662 417 tonnes in the same period of 1999.

**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. ■

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## NEW PRODUCTS

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

**Steel wire and specified wire products**, July 2000  
**Catalogue number 41-006-XIB** (\$5/\$47).

**Surface and marine transport: Service bulletin**,  
Vol. 16, no. 3  
**Catalogue number 50-002-XIB** (\$10).

**Canada's international transactions in securities**,  
June 2000  
**Catalogue number 67-002-XIB** (\$14/\$132).

**Canada's international transactions in securities**,  
June 2000  
**Catalogue number 67-002-XPB** (\$18/\$176).

**Women in Canada: A gender-based statistical report**, 2000  
**Catalogue number 89-503-XPE** (\$45).

**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; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB are electronic versions on diskette and -XCD are electronic versions on compact disc.

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
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Catalogue 11-001E (F) English 11-001E/11-001E-001E-001E	
 <b>The Daily</b> Statistics Canada	
Thursday, June 5, 1997 For release at 9:30 a.m.	
<b>MAJOR RELEASES</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Urban transit, 1995 Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are taking it less and less. In 1995, about 1.5 billion trips were made on public transit, a decline of about 10 per cent on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.</li> </ul>	2
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995 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.</li> </ul>	4
<b>OTHER RELEASES</b>	
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## Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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