



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, September 20, 2000

For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Canadian international merchandise trade, July 2000** 2
The value of exports and imports dropped in July, after reaching record levels in recent months. Canadian companies exported fewer passenger vehicles and less communications equipment, and imported fewer automotive parts. Exports declined 2.9% to \$34.5 billion, and imports declined 0.4% to \$30.3 billion.
- **Wholesale trade, July 2000** 5
Wholesale sales increased for the third straight month in July, despite a sharp decline in the motor vehicle, parts and accessories sector. Total wholesale sales were \$32.3 billion, up 0.6% from June.

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MAJOR RELEASES

Canadian international merchandise trade

July 2000

The value of exports and imports dropped in July, after reaching record levels in recent months. Canadian companies exported fewer passenger vehicles and less communications equipment, and imported fewer automotive parts.

Exports dropped 2.9%, or \$1.0 billion, to \$34.5 billion in July. Lower exports of passenger vehicles, communications equipment and crude petroleum were the major contributors.

Imports dropped 0.4% to \$30.3 billion, owing mainly to declining imports of motor vehicle parts, industrial machinery used in the automobile industry and metal fabricated basic products. These declines were offset somewhat by higher imports of communications equipment.

The trade balance was \$4.2 billion in July, down \$924 million from June. However, the trade balance for the first seven months of the year was \$28.9 billion, an increase of \$10.4 billion over the same period of 1999.

Note to readers

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

Passenger vehicles, communications equipment and crude petroleum bring exports down

Exports of motor vehicle products were down 4.5% in July. The biggest decline in July was in passenger vehicles, down \$294 million (-7.1%). After reaching record levels in June, exports of automotive parts dropped 9.4%. Truck exports, however, were up 11.0%.

Exports of communications equipment, which had been rising since January 1999, dropped 12.8% in July to \$1.9 billion because of a temporary slowdown in demand from the United States during the summer holiday period. Also, lower shipments of airplanes and railway stock caused the entire machinery and equipment sector to fall by 6.3% in July (-\$581 million).

Energy exports declined 7.3% in July, after setting records in June. Exports of crude petroleum plunged 14.2%, owing mainly to lower export prices in July. Exports of electricity also flagged in July, but were still up 59.4% over July 1999. The increase of 7.0% for natural gas exports is entirely related to prices. Export prices of this fuel rose 7.7% in July, continuing the trend that that started at the beginning of 2000.

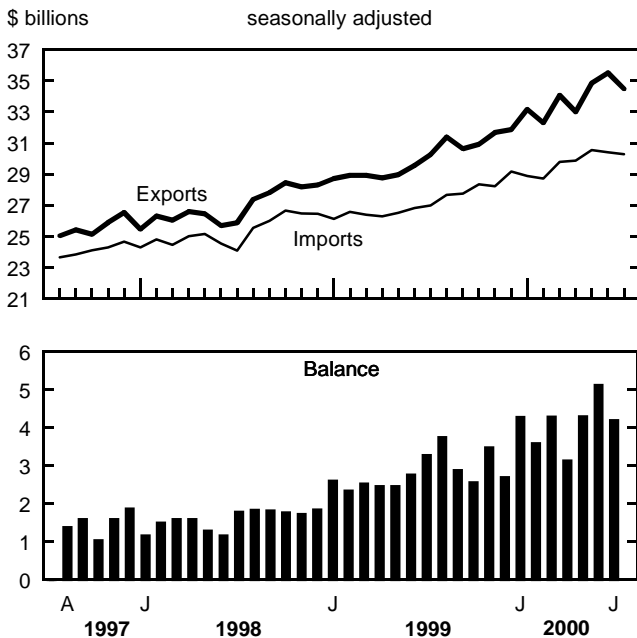
Forestry exports remained stable in July; lower lumber exports (-6.7%) were entirely offset by higher exports of wood pulp (+6.2%) and paper (+5.1%). The slowdown in housing construction in the United States in recent months exerted downward pressure on prices and the value of lumber exports. In contrast, increased demand for paper pushed up both the price and value of these exports.

Imports down slightly

Imports of motor vehicle products declined 2.5% in July. Production of some models declined, bringing imports of parts down by 4.8%. Truck imports were off 10.7%, as demand for heavy trucks slowed. Car imports rose 6.4%; most of the increase was made up of cars from Mexico.

Lower imports of metal fabricated basic products, mainly copper slug to be turned into coins, pushed imports of industrial goods down 2.5%. Imports of steel

Exports, imports and trade balance



bars, rods and plates were down 14.0% to \$416 million in July. However, imports over the first seven months of 2000 were \$3.2 billion, an increase of \$1.1 billion over the same period of 1999.

The rise in imports of communications and computer equipment, which continued for the fifth consecutive month, and increased imports of airplanes and parts, drove the machinery and equipment sector up. However, decreased imports of industrial machinery, such as that used in the automotive industry, slightly dampened the overall increase in this sector.

Revisions

In general, merchandise trade data are regularly revised 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. Consult the appropriate CANSIM matrices for revised data.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3618, 3619, 3651, 3685-3713, 3720, 3887-3913, 8430-8435 and 8438-8447.

This release summarizes the merchandise trade data to be published shortly in *Canadian international merchandise trade* (65-001-XIB, \$14/\$141; 65-001-XPB, \$19/\$188). 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-XIB, \$29/\$93; 67-001-XPB, \$38/\$124). See *How to order products*.

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

	June 2000 ^r	July 2000	June to July 2000	July 1999 to July 2000	Jan. to July 1999	Jan. to July 2000	Jan.-July 1999 to Jan.-July 2000
seasonally adjusted, \$ current							
	\$ millions		% change		\$ millions		% change
Principal trading partners							
Exports							
United States	30,518	29,814	-2.3	13.9	175,107	203,827	16.4
Japan	867	698	-19.5	-1.3	5,417	5,669	4.7
European Union	1,784	1,725	-3.3	13.6	10,237	12,077	18.0
Other OECD countries ¹	718	692	-3.6	31.3	3,919	4,835	23.4
All other countries	1,632	1,547	-5.2	14.8	9,436	10,958	16.1
Total	35,519	34,475	-2.9	13.9	204,117	237,363	16.3
Imports							
United States	22,546	22,195	-1.6	7.1	142,790	154,351	8.1
Japan	1,008	994	-1.4	15.0	5,912	6,745	14.1
European Union	2,659	2,727	2.6	18.3	15,729	18,993	20.8
Other OECD countries ¹	1,574	1,612	2.4	50.2	7,131	10,630	49.1
All other countries	2,616	2,754	5.3	36.2	14,120	17,775	25.9
Total	30,403	30,283	-0.4	12.2	185,684	208,494	12.3
Balance							
United States	7,972	7,619	...	...	32,317	49,476	...
Japan	-141	-296	...	...	-495	-1,076	...
European Union	-875	-1,002	...	...	-5,492	-6,916	...
Other OECD countries ¹	-856	-920	...	...	-3,212	-5,795	...
All other countries	-984	-1,207	...	...	-4,684	-6,817	...
Total	5,116	4,192	...	...	18,433	28,869	...
Principal commodity groupings							
Exports							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,336	2,366	1.3	9.1	14,748	15,913	7.9
Energy products	4,368	4,050	-7.3	50.6	15,346	26,538	72.9
Forestry products	3,506	3,505	0.0	1.2	22,337	24,569	10.0
Industrial goods and materials	5,503	5,622	2.2	17.7	32,588	37,443	14.9
Machinery and equipment	9,199	8,618	-6.3	17.1	48,608	59,382	22.2
Automotive products	8,154	7,788	-4.5	3.4	54,592	56,549	3.6
Other consumer goods	1,207	1,229	1.8	10.6	7,845	8,357	6.5
Special transactions trade ²	653	667	2.1	8.8	4,278	4,483	4.8
Other balance of payments adjustments	592	631	6.6	14.7	3,769	4,132	9.6
Imports							
Agricultural and fishing products	1,511	1,514	0.2	3.9	10,219	10,512	2.9
Energy products	1,397	1,438	2.9	70.4	5,243	9,611	83.3
Forestry products	258	241	-6.6	5.2	1,564	1,755	12.2
Industrial goods and materials	6,070	5,921	-2.5	16.3	35,211	40,980	16.4
Machinery and equipment	10,242	10,333	0.9	15.6	61,753	69,863	13.1
Automotive products	6,578	6,411	-2.5	1.6	43,335	45,418	4.8
Other consumer goods	3,260	3,291	1.0	6.6	21,155	22,767	7.6
Special transactions trade ²	521	574	10.2	11.7	3,608	3,720	3.1
Other balance of payments adjustments	567	561	-1.1	7.1	3,600	3,873	7.6

^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

July 2000 (preliminary)

Wholesale sales increased for the third straight month in July, despite a sharp decline in the motor vehicle, parts and accessories sector. Total wholesale sales were \$32.3 billion, up 0.6% from June.

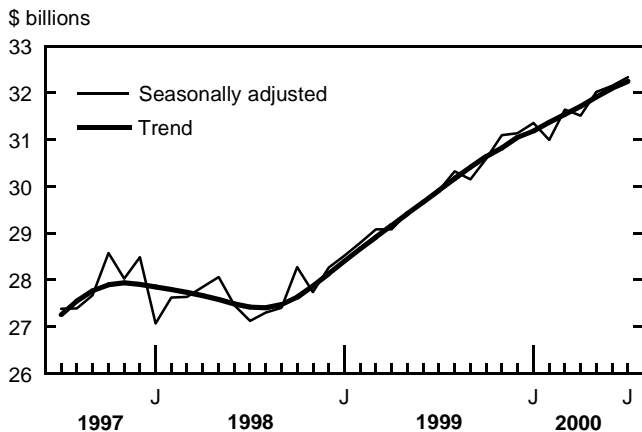
Sales increased in only 5 of 11 trade groups, more than offsetting declines in the other six, the largest of which was a 3.3% drop in motor vehicles, parts and accessories.

Wholesalers in Ontario, who accounted for about half of total national sales, bore the brunt of the declines. Sales in Ontario fell 0.6% to \$16.2 billion in July. However, despite this drop, wholesale sales in Ontario were 8.6% higher than in July 1999.

Wholesale sales have been generally climbing since mid-1998, after a period of falling sales starting in late 1997. July's increase follows a marginal 0.4% rise in June and a 1.6% gain in May.

Strong increases were reported by wholesalers in the other products category (+4.0%), which includes agricultural chemicals, newsprint, sporting goods and photographic equipment, as well as in food products (+2.8%), and computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery (+2.8%). Wholesalers of industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies reported a 1.7% gain, and sales of farm machinery, equipment and supplies rose 1.6%.

Wholesalers report another month of sales increases

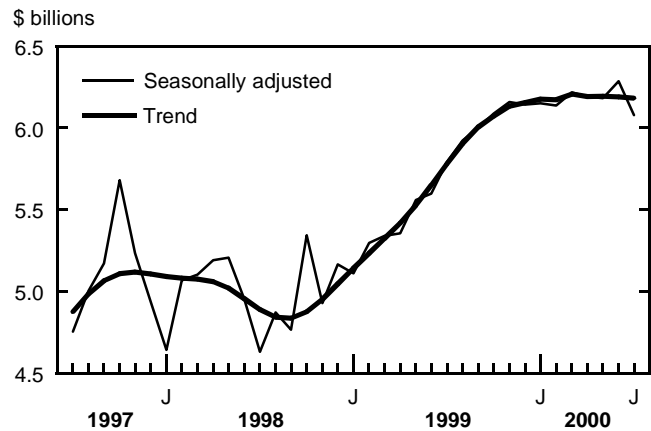


Motor vehicles, parts and accessories slow overall advance

Wholesale sales of motor vehicles, parts and accessories fell 3.3% in July. Since this sector accounts

for approximately one-fifth of total wholesale sales, this notable decline dampened the overall increase in wholesale sales. After generally rising since mid-1998, sales have been levelling off since late 1999. July also saw declines in manufacturer shipments of motor vehicles (-2.8%) and motor vehicle parts and accessories (-2.9%), as well as imports (-2.5%) and exports (-4.5%) of automobile products.

Wholesale sales of motor vehicles, parts and accessories level off



Other products, computer and electronics components still strong

Spurred on by continued healthy demand in both Canada and elsewhere, wholesalers in the other products sector saw a 4.0% rise in sales in July, the seventh consecutive monthly increase. All wholesalers have seen generally rising sales since mid-1998, and those in the other products group have seen the same trend since late 1998.

Wholesalers of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery saw an increase of 2.8% in July, their fourth consecutive monthly rise. Sales in this sector have been climbing since the start of 2000, after falling from mid-1999 to the end of that year.

Ontario hurt by lower sales of motor vehicles and parts

Wholesale sales rose in all provinces except Ontario (-0.6%) and Manitoba (-0.3%). Ontario's July decline followed four consecutive months of rising sales, and generally rising sales since mid-1998. Lower wholesale sales of motor vehicles, parts and accessories contributed to July's drop. Manitoba's decline came on the heels of June's fall of 3.9%. Wholesalers in Manitoba have seen their sales fluctuate

over the last several years; sales have fallen since early 2000, after a general rebound in the fall of 1999.

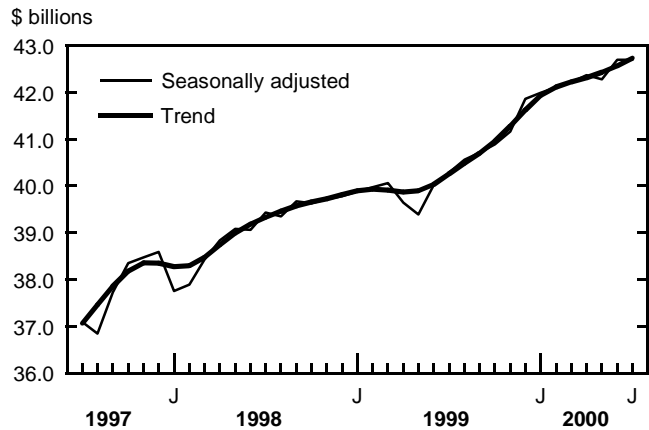
Quebec wholesalers were able to offset the effect of lower wholesale sales of motor vehicle, parts and accessories to climb 2.1% in July. Wholesale sales in Quebec have been generally rising for the last number of years except when they levelled off between late 1997 and mid-1998.

Alberta wholesalers reported strong sales in July, up 4.1%. Except for a slight levelling off early in 2000, wholesale sales in Alberta have been generally rising since late 1998. July's performance can be attributed to strong wholesale sales of industrial machines, chemicals and other products.

Inventories held at June levels

The value of inventories held by wholesalers remained unchanged at \$42.7 billion in July. Inventory values have generally risen over the last several years. However, the general increase in wholesale inventory values has started to moderate since the start of 2000. The continued global shortage of electronic components was evident again in July; wholesalers of computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery reported a drop in inventories (-4.8%).

Inventory values were unchanged



The inventory-to-sales ratio fell from 1.33 in June to 1.32 in July. The ratio has levelled off since late 1999. Prior to this, the ratio had been generally dropping.

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

The July 2000 issue of *Wholesale trade* (63-008-XIB, \$14/\$140) will be available shortly. See *How to order products*.

Wholesale trade estimates for August will be released on October 19.

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

	July 1999	April 2000 ^r	May 2000 ^r	June 2000 ^r	July 2000 ^p	June to July 2000	July 1999 to July 2000
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions					% change	
Sales, all trade groups	29,919	31,512	32,022	32,149	32,333	0.6	8.1
Food products	4,567	4,783	4,837	4,847	4,980	2.8	9.1
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	1,852	1,961	2,053	2,051	2,041	-0.5	10.2
Apparel and dry goods	520	545	542	544	541	-0.6	4.0
Household goods	834	871	879	851	850	-0.2	1.9
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	5,793	6,192	6,182	6,286	6,079	-3.3	4.9
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	1,947	2,015	2,100	2,097	2,045	-2.5	5.0
Lumber and building materials	2,398	2,307	2,402	2,391	2,356	-1.4	-1.7
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	582	603	612	594	604	1.6	3.8
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	4,369	4,886	4,977	5,007	5,093	1.7	16.6
Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery	3,091	2,941	2,959	3,000	3,083	2.8	-0.3
Other products	3,968	4,410	4,480	4,481	4,662	4.0	17.5
Sales by province and territory							
Newfoundland	219	224	225	220	222	0.9	1.2
Prince Edward Island	48	55	54	52	53	2.1	11.6
Nova Scotia	540	565	575	569	571	0.4	5.8
New Brunswick	370	410	413	406	416	2.3	12.3
Quebec	6,118	6,310	6,476	6,512	6,646	2.1	8.6
Ontario	14,920	15,743	16,091	16,303	16,197	-0.6	8.6
Manitoba	906	896	897	862	860	-0.3	-5.1
Saskatchewan	857	1,007	920	891	898	0.8	4.8
Alberta	2,684	2,995	3,066	3,069	3,194	4.1	19.0
British Columbia	3,235	3,284	3,279	3,242	3,251	0.3	0.5
Yukon	9	9	9	9	10	9.1	10.2
Northwest Territories	12	13	12	12	13	11.5	6.3
Nunavut	2	2	3	2	2	1.8	31.7
Inventories, all trade groups	40,290	42,367	42,280	42,695	42,694	0.0	6.0
Food products	2,725	2,795	2,832	2,898	2,876	-0.7	5.6
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	2,249	2,438	2,478	2,520	2,508	-0.5	11.5
Apparel and dry goods	1,242	1,061	1,063	1,054	1,042	-1.1	-16.1
Household goods	1,530	1,515	1,522	1,541	1,552	0.7	1.4
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	5,911	6,574	6,429	6,601	6,747	2.2	14.1
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	3,540	3,897	3,931	3,972	3,958	-0.4	11.8
Lumber and building materials	3,750	4,085	4,000	3,952	3,936	-0.4	5.0
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	2,109	2,005	1,977	1,961	1,937	-1.2	-8.2
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	9,706	10,407	10,402	10,467	10,504	0.4	8.2
Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery	2,457	2,370	2,372	2,394	2,280	-4.8	-7.2
Other products	5,070	5,221	5,274	5,337	5,355	0.3	5.6

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.



OTHER RELEASES

Employment Insurance

July 2000 (preliminary)

The estimated number of Canadians (unadjusted for seasonal trends) who received regular Employment Insurance benefits in July was 397,820, a decrease of 11.8% from July 1999. All provinces and territories except Nunavut recorded year-over-year decreases.

Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits

	July 1999	July 2000 ^P	July 1999 to July 2000
Unadjusted for seasonality			
			% change
Canada	451,150	397,820	-11.8
Newfoundland	28,200	26,200	-7.1
Prince Edward Island	6,110	5,950	-2.6
Nova Scotia	23,170	22,780	-1.7
New Brunswick	27,000	25,800	-4.4
Quebec	155,430	141,150	-9.2
Ontario	97,890	85,760	-12.4
Manitoba	11,510	10,780	-6.3
Saskatchewan	11,330	9,170	-19.1
Alberta	34,600	24,250	-29.9
British Columbia	54,100	44,280	-18.2
Yukon	680	580	-14.7
Northwest Territories	670	600	-10.4
Nunavut	440	470	6.8

^P Preliminary figures.

Regular benefit payments (adjusted for seasonal trends) fell 1.0% between June and July to \$592.3 million; this was 3.6% lower than in July 1999. From June to July, claims received increased by 5.5% to 223,650.

Statistics Canada and Human Resources Development Canada have discovered an underestimation in the calculation of the number of beneficiaries of Employment Insurance. This affects the beneficiaries file from January 1997 to April 2000. Consequently, the departments have agreed to correct the underestimation and conduct an historical revision to correct the data series dating back to January 1997.

The preliminary data on the number of beneficiaries, aggregated at the provincial level for June and July, were tabulated by Human Resources Development Canada and provided to Statistics Canada. These preliminary data are unadjusted for seasonal trends.

Employment Insurance statistics

	July 1999	June 2000	July 2000	June to July 2000	July 1999 to July 2000
seasonally adjusted					
					% change
Regular benefits paid (\$ millions)	614.7	598.3	592.3	-1.0	-3.6
Claims received ('000)	225.6	212.0	223.6	5.5	-0.9
unadjusted for seasonality					
					% change
All beneficiaries ('000)	604.4	533.4 ^P	549.9 ^P	3.1	-9.0
Regular beneficiaries ('000)	451.2	375.4 ^P	397.8 ^P	6.0	-11.8
Claims received ('000)	256.6	165.1	270.1	63.6	5.3
Payments (\$ millions)	780.9	757.1	809.3	6.9	3.6
year-to-date (January to July)					
					1999 to 2000
					%
					change
Claims received ('000)			1,468.0	1,427.5	-2.8
Payments (\$ millions)			7,548.1	7,160.5	-5.1

^P Preliminary figures.

Note: All beneficiaries includes all claimants receiving regular benefits (e.g., due to layoff) or special benefits (e.g., due to illness).

Note: Users are cautioned against making any analytical comparisons between this data and any monthly or historical data previously released in *The Daily* and on CANSIM.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 26 (series 1.6), 5700-5717, 5735 and 5736.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Justin Lacroix (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; labour@statcan.ca), Labour Statistics Division. ■

Public sector employment

Second quarter 2000 (preliminary)

Employment in the public sector increased 0.7% in the second quarter. This is 19,000 more employees than in the second quarter of 1999. This fifth consecutive quarterly increase is in line with Canada's current

sustained economic growth and follows several years of tighter budgetary control and restructuring by governments. Between April and June 2000, the public sector had an average of 2.9 million employees and contributed about \$28 billion in wages and salaries to the economy.

Most of the increase in the public sector employment is accounted for by an increase in government employment. Average government employment reached 2.6 million employees in the second quarter of 2000, 0.5% more than in the second quarter of 1999.

Increases in employment at the federal and provincial/territorial levels of government were reported in almost all regions of Canada. However, local government total average employment showed little change, as increases reported in five provinces and territories were more than offset by declines in the rest of the country, particularly in eastern Canada.

Government business enterprises employed an average of 265,000 employees in the second quarter

of 2000, an increase of 2.3% over the second quarter of 1999. Most of the increase is the result of growth reported in amusement and recreation service industries in the province of Ontario.

These and other public sector employment, wages and salaries data are available on CANSIM and through custom tabulation.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2720, 2860, 2863, 2864 and 2866.

For information or for general inquiries on the Public Institutions Division's products and services, contact Lisa McCambley (613-951-4354; fax: 613-951-0661; lisa.mccambley@stcinet.statcan.ca), Public Institutions Division.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Alain Paquet (613-951-8565; paquala@statcan.ca), Public Institutions Division.

Public sector employment

Second quarter 2000 (preliminary)

	Federal government	Provincial and territorial governments	Local governments	Total government	Government business enterprises	Total public sector ¹	Second quarter 1999 to second quarter 2000 % change
Canada	338,457	1,321,572	927,718	2,587,747	264,760	2,852,507	0.7
Newfoundland	7,114	31,004	12,906	51,024	3,399	54,423	-1.2
Prince Edward Island	3,511	8,759	2,730	15,001	424	15,425	2.7
Nova Scotia	22,947	46,869	25,426	95,242	6,418	101,660	-3.0
New Brunswick	13,269	55,033	6,806	75,108	6,835	81,942	-0.2
Quebec	68,141	385,944	211,142	665,227	65,524	730,750	-0.6
Ontario	134,388	359,654	377,394	871,436	106,404	977,840	1.4
Manitoba	15,868	65,696	40,806	122,369	13,397	135,766	2.1
Saskatchewan	9,184	55,103	36,734	101,021	12,717	113,738	0.5
Alberta	24,570	132,085	94,865	251,520	15,688	267,208	1.9
British Columbia	34,335	169,261	115,504	319,100	33,349	352,449	1.0
Yukon	862	3,697	312	4,871	x	4,871	-1.0
Northwest Territories	1,065	4,704	1,673	7,442	x	7,442	3.7
Nunavut	107	3,762	1,422	5,290	x	5,290	36.2
Outside of Canada	3,096	0	0	3,096	x	3,096	4.8

^x Confidential data.

¹ To preserve confidentiality, data for the territories and outside Canada exclude government public enterprises.

Note: Federal government includes the military. Provincial and territorial governments includes provincial and territorial general government, universities and colleges and health and social services institutions. Local government includes general government and school boards. Canada total may differ from the sum of provinces/territories because of number rounding.

Natural gas sales

July 2000 (preliminary)

Natural gas sales totalled 4 005 million cubic metres in July, up 8.7% over July 1999. All three sectors (residential, commercial and industrial) recorded higher sales. Use by the industrial sector (including direct

sales) rose 9.7% from July 1999, owing to higher demand for natural gas by electric utilities and the mining and chemical industries.

Year-to-date sales were up 5.2% higher than in the same period of 1999. Industrial sector sales (including direct sales) continued to grow strongly, posting an 9.1% increase over the same period of 1999. Consumption

was lower in both the residential (-0.1%) and commercial (-1.6%) sectors.

Natural gas sales

	July 2000 ^P	July 1999	July 1999 to July 2000 % change
	thousands of cubic metres		
Total sales	4 005 020	3 683 390	8.7
Residential	412 192	385 786	6.8
Commercial	307 037	303 307	1.2
Industrial	1 740 148	1 529 690	9.7
Direct	1 545 643	1 464 607	
	Year-to-date		
			1999 to 2000
	thousands of cubic metres		
Total sales	43 263 191	41 116 532	5.2
Residential	9 455 945	9 467 068	-0.1
Commercial	6 607 229	6 716 716	-1.6
Industrial	12 583 730	12 051 838	9.1
Direct	14 616 287	12 880 910	

^P Preliminary figures.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1052-1055.

The July 2000 issue of *Natural gas transportation and distribution* (55-002-XIB, \$13/\$125) will be available in October. See *How to order products*.

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), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Export and import price indexes

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

The July 2000 issue of *Canadian international merchandise trade* (65-001-XIB, \$14/\$141; 65-001-XPB, \$19/\$188) will be available shortly. See *How to order products*.

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. ■

Civil aviation operating statistics

July 2000

Canadian Airlines reported an increase of 10% in domestic passenger-kilometres in July, while the operations of Air Canada decreased by 3%. (All data referred to are seasonally adjusted.)

Available on CANSIM: matrix 385 (series 1 to 6).

The July operational data on civil aviation for Air Canada and Canadian Airlines will appear in the October issue of *Aviation service bulletin* (51-004-XIB, \$8/\$82). A print-on-demand service is also available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Robert Lund (613-951-0125), Transportation Division. ■

Stocks of frozen poultry meat

September 1, 2000 (preliminary)

Data for stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on September 1 are now available.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 5675-5677.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandra Gielfeldt (613-951-2505), or Gilles Beaudry (613-951-6480), Agriculture Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

New motor vehicle sales, July 2000
Catalogue number 63-007-XIB (\$13/\$124).

Exports by country, January–June 2000
Catalogue number 65-003-XPB (\$124/\$412).

Exports by country, January–June 2000
Catalogue number 65-003-XMB (\$62/\$206).

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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The Daily
 Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
 For release at 9:30 a.m.

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- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1996, accompanied by stagnant gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

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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".

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