



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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Lower monthly energy prices in December contributed to the slowest annual rate of increase in industrial prices since November 1999. Similarly, raw material prices were growing at their slowest pace since June 1999.
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A thriving manufacturing sector and rising commodity prices boosted profits, as corporations recorded strong increases in profitability in 1999. The returns of large and medium firms rebounded after softening in 1998, and small firms saw a third straight year of profit growth.

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Travel-log Winter 2001

The Winter 2001 issue of *Travel-log*, Statistics Canada's quarterly tourism newsletter features the article "Canada's competitiveness in the U.S. travel market." American travellers are the biggest source of foreign tourists for Canada. They accounted for 78% of all overnight travel to Canada and 59% of inbound travel expenditures in 1999. Yet, between 1990 and 1997, growth in travel from the U.S. was slower in Canada than elsewhere. Trips by Americans for pleasure and to visit friends and relatives in Canada, as a proportion of all travel to Canada, decreased between 1990 and 1997. At the same time, however, this type of travel increased for Americans travelling in their country or to overseas countries. In addition, the proportion of family travel to Canada by Americans declined during the same period.

To better understand the changes occurring in the U.S. market, this article examines the main characteristics of American travellers to Canada in 1990 and 1997. It also compares the characteristics of family travel and non-family travel in 1990 and 1997. Finally, 1999 data are used to paint a more up-to-date picture of U.S. family and non-family travel to Canada. Each quarter, *Travel-log* examines the trends of the Travel Price Index. It also features the latest travel indicators, travellers' characteristics and the international travel account.

The Winter 2001 (Volume 20, no. 1) issue of *Travel-log* (87-003-XIE, \$5/\$16; 87-003-XPB, \$13/\$42) is now available. See *How to order products*. For more information, contact Monique Beyrouiti (613-951-1673, fax: 613-951-2909, monique.beyrouiti@statcan.ca), or Jocelyn Lapierre (613-951-3720, fax: 613-951-2909) Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics Division.



Statistics Canada / Statistique Canada



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MAJOR RELEASES

Industrial product and raw materials price indexes

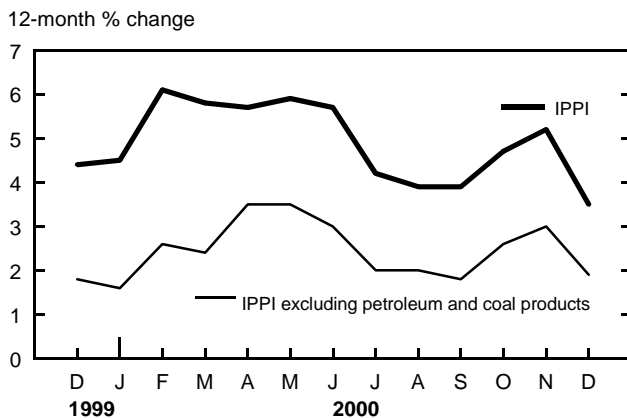
December 2000

Lower monthly energy prices in December contributed to the slowest annual rate of increase in industrial prices since November 1999. Similarly, raw material prices were growing at their slowest pace since June 1999.

Manufacturers' prices, as measured by the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI), gained 3.5% from December 1999 to December 2000. This was a substantial slowdown from the rate of 5.2% in November and the recent peak of 6.1% in February 2000.

Once again petroleum and coal product prices were central to these gains, accounting for close to half the annual increase in December. If the impact of petroleum and coal product prices were excluded, industrial product prices would have increased 1.9% instead of 3.5%. Prices for paper and paper products and motor vehicles also contributed to the annual increase, while falling prices for lumber had a dampening influence.

Petroleum product prices influenced the IPPI



On a monthly basis, industrial prices fell 0.9% between November and December, representing the second downturn in prices for 2000 and the largest monthly decline since March of 1998. While most of the decline stemmed from the petroleum and coal product and motor vehicle categories, downward price pressure was common to more than half of the major categories.

Manufacturers paid 6.3% more for their raw materials in December compared with December 1999. This follows an annual growth rate of 19.1% in November, and remains well below the recent peak of 37.3% in February 2000.

Note to readers

This release combines the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI) and the Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI), which were previously reported in separate releases. These releases were combined to provide a consolidated view of industrial prices.

The IPPI reflects the prices that producers in Canada receive as the goods leave the plant gate. It does not reflect what the consumer pays. Unlike the Consumer Price Index, the IPPI excludes indirect taxes and all the costs that occur between the time a good leaves the plant and the time the final user takes possession of it, including the transportation, wholesale, and retail costs.

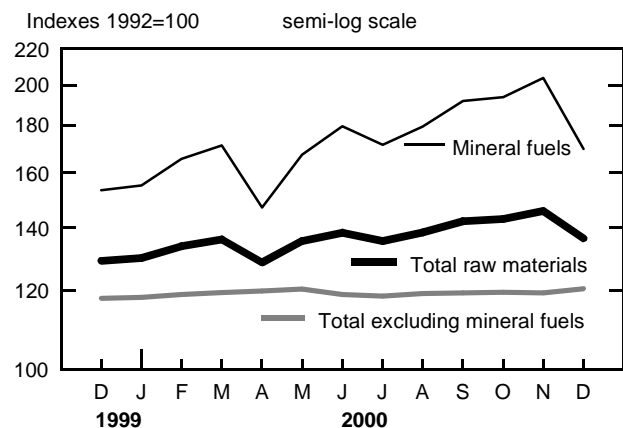
Canadian producers export many goods. They often quote their prices in foreign currencies, particularly for motor vehicles, pulp, paper, and wood products. Therefore, a rise or fall in the value of the Canadian dollar against its U.S. counterpart affects the IPPI.

The RMPI reflects the prices paid by Canadian manufacturers for key raw materials. Many of these prices are set in a world market. Unlike the IPPI, the RMPI includes goods not produced in Canada.

Mineral fuel prices were the primary force behind this gain, accompanied by the animal product, wood and vegetable product categories. Without the mineral fuels category, the Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI) would have risen only 2.7%.

From November to December, the RMPI dropped 7.3%, pulled down by mineral fuel prices. If mineral fuels were excluded, the monthly index would have advanced 1.2%.

Crude oil prices dropped



The IPPI (1992=100) stood at 128.9 in December, down from 130.1 in November. The RMPI (1992=100) dropped to 142.8 from a revised 154.0 in November.

Record increase in RMPI annual average prices

In 2000, the prices paid by manufacturers for their raw materials posted their fastest annual average growth rate on record, 22.6%. (The annual average is obtained by averaging the 12 months of the calendar year.) The annual average price received by manufacturers for their goods grew 4.9%, the highest rate since 1995. Most of this upward price pressure was the result of surging energy prices.

Petroleum and coal product prices escalated throughout most of 2000, leaving prices 45.2% higher than in 1999. This surpassed gains in any other year on record in the IPPI. This reflects surging crude oil prices, which rose 62.6% in 2000. Concerns over low inventories continued throughout most of 2000, despite output increases from nations of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

According to the American Petroleum Institute, crude oil inventories in November were 3.5% below those of November 1999 and the lowest for any November since 1975.

Robust demand helped keep pulp prices rising throughout 2000, continuing a trend that started in March 1999. Prices for 2000 jumped 27.0% compared with 1999, but remained well below the 1995 record average.

The lumber market weakened in 2000 from 1999, pulled down by softwood lumber prices. Softwood lumber prices dropped 16.1% from 1999 amid falling U.S. housing starts, which were 4% lower in 2000 than in 1999.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1870-1879.

The December 2000 issue of *Industry price indexes* (62-011-XPB, \$22/\$217) will be available in February. 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 (613-951-3350; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca), Prices Division. □

Industrial product price indexes
(1992=100)

	Relative importance	December 1999	November 2000 ^r	December 2000 ^p	December 1999 to December 2000 % change	November to December 2000
Industrial Product Price Index	100.00	124.6	130.1	128.9	3.5	-0.9
Intermediate goods¹	59.28	125.5	131.0	130.0	3.6	-0.8
First-stage intermediate goods ²	7.91	134.7	146.2	145.0	7.6	-0.8
Second-stage intermediate goods ³	51.37	124.1	128.6	127.7	2.9	-0.7
Finished goods⁴	40.72	123.4	128.7	127.2	3.1	-1.2
Finished foods and feeds	10.38	114.7	117.0	116.7	1.7	-0.3
Capital equipment	10.21	125.5	129.3	127.8	1.8	-1.2
All other finished goods	20.13	126.7	134.4	132.4	4.5	-1.5
Aggregation by commodities						
Meat, fish and dairy products	7.27	121.5	123.6	123.2	1.4	-0.3
Fruit, vegetable, feed, miscellaneous food products	6.72	109.1	111.6	111.7	2.4	0.1
Beverages	2.12	117.3	121.6	121.4	3.5	-0.2
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.72	140.0	147.7	149.3	6.6	1.1
Rubber, leather, plastic fabric products	3.01	116.2	119.5	119.3	2.7	-0.2
Textile products	1.82	108.0	108.0	108.0	0.0	0.0
Knitted products and clothing	1.93	110.1	110.9	110.8	0.6	-0.1
Lumber, sawmill, other wood products	5.20	144.9	129.3	127.1	-12.3	-1.7
Furniture and fixtures	1.46	117.3	119.7	119.7	2.0	0.0
Pulp and paper products	7.65	133.6	151.2	149.6	12.0	-1.1
Printing and publishing	3.05	136.1	140.7	140.2	3.0	-0.4
Primary metal products	7.58	127.5	126.7	126.1	-1.1	-0.5
Metal fabricated products	4.11	124.2	125.2	125.1	0.7	-0.1
Machinery and equipment	4.08	115.8	116.2	115.8	0.0	-0.3
Autos, trucks, other transportation equipment	18.76	131.6	138.0	135.6	3.0	-1.7
Electrical and communications products	6.03	106.4	106.2	105.5	-0.8	-0.7
Non-metallic mineral products	2.12	116.6	119.5	120.4	3.3	0.8
Petroleum and coal products ⁵	6.01	137.7	180.0	172.5	25.3	-4.2
Chemicals and chemical products	7.60	119.7	124.6	125.6	4.9	0.8
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.45	119.8	120.4	120.0	0.2	-0.3
Miscellaneous non-manufactured commodities	0.31	124.1	116.6	120.3	-3.1	3.2

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

¹ Intermediate goods are goods used principally to produce other goods.

² First-stage intermediate goods are items used most frequently to produce other intermediate goods.

³ Second-stage intermediate goods are items most commonly used to produce final goods.

⁴ Finished goods are goods most commonly used for immediate consumption or for capital investment.

⁵ This index is estimated for the current month.

Raw materials price indexes
(1992=100)

	Relative importance	December 1999	November 2000 ^r	December 2000 ^p	December 1999 to December 2000 % change	November to December 2000
Raw materials Price Index (RMPI)	100.00	134.4	154.0	142.8	6.3	-7.3
Mineral fuels	31.47	162.9	221.3	182.3	11.9	-17.6
Vegetable products	9.41	112.4	117.8	119.8	6.6	1.7
Animals and animal products	24.41	116.4	118.8	121.2	4.1	2.0
Wood	14.88	136.4	142.0	142.0	4.1	0.0
Ferrous materials	3.17	125.6	114.0	111.7	-11.1	-2.0
Non-ferrous metals	13.81	119.2	116.3	118.7	-0.4	2.1
Non-metallic minerals	2.85	118.5	121.7	121.7	2.7	0.0
RMPI excluding mineral fuels	68.53	121.3	123.1	124.6	2.7	1.2

^r Revised figures.

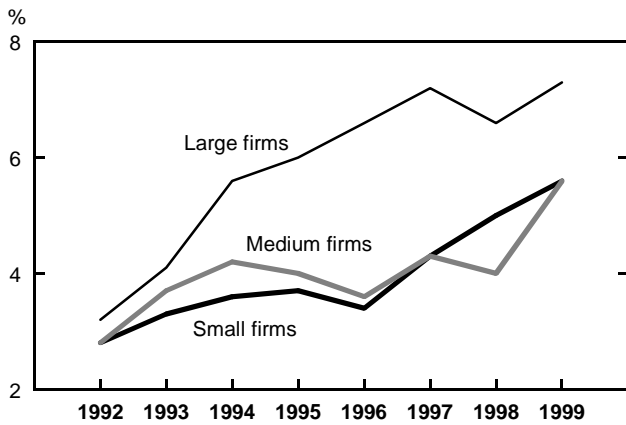
^p Preliminary figures.

Financial performance indicators for Canadian business

1999

A thriving manufacturing sector and rising commodity prices boosted profits, as corporations recorded strong increases in profitability in 1999. The returns of large and medium firms rebounded after softening in 1998, and small firms saw a third straight year of profit growth.

Return on assets – non-financial industries



Large firms — those with annual revenues of more than \$75 million — earned an average return on assets of 7.3%, up from 6.6% in 1998. Medium firms saw returns rise from 4.0% to 5.6% in 1999. Large and medium firms in the manufacturing and wholesaling sectors posted the highest average returns. Firms in the mining sector, which includes oil and gas producers, experienced the strongest year-to-year growth. Medium firms are those with revenue between \$5 million and \$75 million.

The average return on assets for small firms was 5.6% in 1999, a healthy increase compared with 5.0% in 1998 and 4.3% in 1997. Small firms in the services sector recorded the highest average returns in 1999 and the strongest growth from 1998. Small firms are those with revenue between \$50,000 and \$5 million.

Large firms continued to achieve higher rates of return than either medium or small firms, a trend that began after the 1991 recession. Larger-scale operations help firms keep input, advertising, distribution and other operating costs down. They may also benefit from lower financing costs and be better able to take advantage of opportunities in foreign markets than smaller firms.

Note to readers

This release is based on Financial performance indicators for Canadian business, which contains information on the financial performance and balance sheets of Canadian businesses. These indicators were developed using the income tax returns of about 1 million corporations, along with data from Statistics Canada's quarterly and annual programs of financial statistics for enterprises.

The return on assets was used to compare the performance of large, medium and small firms, as this was the best measure of profitability available for all three size groups. The specific measure used was pretax profit to total assets, which measures how well management has employed the firm's assets to generate earnings.

This same ratio was used to rank the most profitable industries for small firms. The measure used to rank the industries for large and medium firms was the return on capital employed, which indicates the number of cents returned (net earnings) for every dollar of capital. All rankings were based on average annual returns over three years — 1997, 1998 and 1999.

Among medium and large firms, manufacturing outperformed other sectors

Among medium and large firms, manufacturing outperformed the other major sectors of the economy. Manufacturing posted progressively higher returns on capital employed in each of the three years from 1997 to 1999. Returns reached 10.3% in 1999, as shipments surged to their strongest increase since 1995.

Firms in wholesaling and retailing also benefited from strong returns in 1999. Sales in the wholesale sector rose 8.0%, more than double 1998's pace, and retailers enjoyed sales growth of 6.0%.

Medium and large firm industry ranking based on average rate of return on capital employed: Goods-producing industries 1997 to 1999

Industry	Top five ranking	Median return on capital employed %
Rubber products manufacturing (except tires and tubes)	1	16.7
Household appliances manufacturing	2	15.0
Motor vehicles and motor vehicle parts and accessories manufacturing	3	13.5
Logging	4	12.9
Other printing and publishing	5	12.8

Among medium and large firms, those that provide travel services, such as travel agencies and tour operators, were the most profitable between 1997 and 1999. This industry recorded an annual average return on capital employed of 19.3%, based on particularly strong returns in 1998 (30.1%) and 1999 (25.4%).

Medium and large firm industry ranking based on average rate of return on capital employed: Service industries 1997 to 1999

Industry	Top five ranking	Median return on capital employed %
Travel services	1	19.3
Computer and peripheral equipment sales and services	2	12.7
Other general merchandise retailing and services	3	12.7
Other chemicals and chemical products wholesaling not elsewhere classified	4	12.5
Recreational vehicles and other transportation equipment wholesaling	5	11.9

Manufacturers of rubber products (16.7%), household appliances (15.0%) and motor vehicles, parts and accessories (13.5%) also posted strong returns over the three-year period. In each of these industries, returns were strongest in 1998 and fell back somewhat in 1999.

Among small firms, services sector topped the chart

Among small firms, the most profitable of the major sectors was the services sector, with an average annual return on assets of 7.8% over the three years from 1997 to 1999. Manufacturing followed, with returns of 6.0%. These two sectors were also the best performers in 1999 alone, when firms in the services sector averaged returns of 9.0% and those in manufacturing managed 6.4%. The wholesale sector followed with returns of 5.4%.

Among small firms, the health care field continued to lead the list of the most profitable service industries in the 1997-to-1999 period. These businesses typically report low assets, since the key asset, their human resources, does not appear on the balance sheet. Social services practitioners, excluding psychologists

and social workers, recorded a three-year annual average return on assets of 31.3%, topping the rankings for the third year in a row. Other health practitioners, such as acupuncturists, followed with returns of 28.7%.

Small firm industry ranking based on average rate of return on assets: Service industries 1997 to 1999

Industry	Top five ranking	Median return on assets %
Offices of other social service practitioners	1	31.3
Offices of other health practitioners	2	28.7
Offices of physicians, general practice	3	23.8
Offices of physicians and surgeons, specialists	4	23.2
Medical laboratories	5	22.7

Four of the five most profitable goods-producing industries were in manufacturing. Average annual returns ranged from 11.5% for manufacturers of steel pipe and tubing to 10.7% for producers of communications and energy wire and cable. However, the best-performing firms were those engaged in exterior close-in construction work, such as the installation of weatherstripping and caulking, with returns of 13.6%.

Small firm industry ranking based on average rate of return on assets: Goods-producing industries 1997 to 1999

Industry	Top five ranking	Median return on assets %
Other exterior close-in construction work	1	13.6
Steel pipe and tube manufacturing	2	11.5
Primary glass and glass containers manufacturing	3	10.9
Telecommunication equipment manufacturing	4	10.9
Communications and energy wire and cable manufacturing	5	10.7

Improved profitability in the financial services sector

The profitability of the financial services sector improved somewhat in 1999, after a poor performance the previous year. The 1998 returns of firms in the financial sector were buffeted by weakness in the Canadian dollar, rising interest rates and general volatility in world financial markets.

Ranking of financial industries based on average rate of return on capital employed 1997 to 1999

Industry	Top five ranking	Median return on capital employed %
Chartered banks, Schedule A	1	11.1
Investment dealers — subsidiaries of banks	2	9.9
Investment dealers	3	9.2
Trust and mortgage companies — subsidiaries of banks	4	7.9
Trust and mortgage companies	5	7.4

Improved returns in 1999 enabled the major banks to post the best overall results in the financial sector over the 1997-to-1999 period, with an 11.1% average

annual return on capital employed. Following the banks were investment dealers that were subsidiaries of banks. Although these firms recorded a three-year average of 9.9%, returns were low in both 1998 (7.9%) and 1999 (5.6%).

Over the three-year period, independent investment dealers ranked third in profitability, with average annual returns of 9.2%.

Financial performance indicators for Canadian business (61F0058XCB, Volume 1, \$180; 61F0059XCB, Volume 2, \$200; 61F0060XCB, Volume 3, \$220; 10-3010XKB, Volumes 1 to 3; and provincial/territorial detail, \$725) is now available on CD-ROM. To order the CD-ROM, contact Jeannine D'Angelo (613-951-2604), Industrial Organization and Finance Division, a Statistics Canada regional reference centres.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Ed Hamilton (613-951-4310), Industrial Organization and Finance Division. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Employment, earnings and hours

November 2000 (preliminary)

Average weekly earnings for all employees increased by \$2.88 in November from October, to \$632.15. Compared with November 1999, average weekly earnings increased 2.9%.

By province, year-over-year average earnings growth was mostly in the 2% to 4% range. For the same period, earnings growth for employees in the services-producing sector (+3.1%) was slightly stronger than growth for goods-producing employees (+2.3%).

Average hourly earnings for hourly paid employees were \$15.58 in November, down three cents from October. Average weekly hours for these employees were 31.9, up 0.1 hours from October.

Payroll employment increased by 55,500 in November. This is the fourth month in a row with strong employment gains. The largest employment gain was in business services, followed by manufacturing, wholesale trade and construction. Employment declined in retail trade. All provinces and territories gained employment in November; Quebec and British Columbia saw the largest increases.

Note: Beginning with the January 2001 data to be released on March 29, the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours (SEPH) will start publishing its estimates based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). The NAICS-based estimates will not be comparable with the previously

published estimates based on the Standard Industrial Classification of 1980. However, at the time of the March 29 release, SEPH will make available NAICS-based historical series from January 1991 to December 2000. The historical series will also reflect the levels of employment and earnings derived from the administrative records resulting from the implementation of the third phase of the survey redesign in May 1998. In addition, seasonal factors will be revised, thus improving the historical consistency of seasonally adjusted estimates. For more information on the NAICS consult the *Concepts, definitions and methods* page on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca) or contact Jean Leduc at (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; labour@statcan.ca).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 4285-4466, 4493, 4494, 9438-9452, 9639-9664 and 9899-9911.

Detailed industry data and other labour market indicators will be available in February through standard tables in the monthly publication *Employment, earnings and hours* (72-002-XIB, \$24/\$240; 72-002-XPB, \$32/\$320). Annual averages for 1999 are now available through CANSIM and by custom tabulations from Labour Statistics Division. See *How to order products*.

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

Average weekly earnings for all employees

Industry group (1980 Standard Industrial Classification)	November 1999	October 2000 ^r	November 2000 ^p	October to November 2000	November 1999 to November 2000
	seasonally adjusted				
	\$			% change	
Industrial aggregate	614.46	629.27	632.15	0.5	2.9
Logging and forestry	792.03	824.87	826.35	0.2	4.3
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	1,119.07	1,150.32	1,156.18	0.5	3.3
Manufacturing	758.68	775.31	773.58	-0.2	2.0
Construction	699.73	720.78	728.10	1.0	4.1
Transportation and storage	739.64	749.49	751.38	0.3	1.6
Communication and other utilities	813.53	819.26	817.66	-0.2	0.5
Wholesale trade	657.73	664.15	665.70	0.2	1.2
Retail trade	372.47	371.85	376.01	1.1	1.0
Finance and insurance	803.80	817.31	830.60	1.6	3.3
Real estate operators and insurance agencies	642.60	662.65	669.98	1.1	4.3
Business services	700.34	743.80	748.92	0.7	6.9
Education-related services	671.86	681.98	685.70	0.5	2.1
Health and social services	526.15	550.02	553.20	0.6	5.1
Accommodation, food and beverage services	238.98	247.40	249.81	1.0	4.5
Public administration	746.31	762.87	763.42	0.1	2.3
Miscellaneous services	413.18	427.33	428.28	0.2	3.7
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland	542.44	558.60	559.51	0.2	3.1
Prince Edward Island	478.28	493.91	498.23	0.9	4.2
Nova Scotia	517.73	525.84	531.79	1.1	2.7
New Brunswick	542.35	557.23	563.15	1.1	3.8
Quebec	572.98	588.53	592.16	0.6	3.3
Ontario	657.18	672.36	674.21	0.3	2.6
Manitoba	543.95	559.45	564.50	0.9	3.8
Saskatchewan	546.40	561.53	566.81	0.9	3.7
Alberta	626.87	644.00	649.36	0.8	3.6
British Columbia	625.80	636.83	638.72	0.3	2.1
Yukon	693.03	695.67	694.73	-0.1	0.2
Northwest Territories and Nunavut	791.03	825.41	830.66	0.6	5.0

^r Revised estimates.

^p Preliminary estimates.

Number of employees

Industry group (1980 Standard Industrial Classification)	September 2000	October 2000 ^r	November 2000 ^p	September to October 2000	October to November 2000
	seasonally adjusted				
	'000			% change	
Industrial aggregate	12,290	12,328	12,384	0.3	0.5
Logging and forestry	69	67	67	-2.9	0.0
Mining, quarrying and oil wells	140	140	141	0.0	0.7
Manufacturing	2,017	2,024	2,033	0.3	0.4
Construction	557	552	559	-0.9	1.3
Transportation and storage	520	520	523	0.0	0.6
Communication and other utilities	392	393	395	0.3	0.5
Wholesale trade	822	823	831	0.1	1.0
Retail trade	1,466	1,474	1,467	0.5	-0.5
Finance and insurance	546	545	546	-0.2	0.2
Real estate operators and insurance agencies	196	198	204	1.0	3.0
Business services	979	984	995	0.5	1.1
Education-related services	936	934	933	-0.2	-0.1
Health and social services	1,225	1,229	1,231	0.3	0.2
Accommodation, food and beverage services	890	897	901	0.8	0.4
Public administration	679	681	684	0.3	0.4
Miscellaneous services	735	740	745	0.7	0.7
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland	156	157	157	0.6	0.0
Prince Edward Island	54	55	56	1.9	1.8
Nova Scotia	343	344	348	0.3	1.2
New Brunswick	271	272	275	0.4	1.1
Quebec	2,905	2,905	2,924	0.0	0.7
Ontario	4,828	4,843	4,853	0.3	0.2
Manitoba	480	483	485	0.6	0.4
Saskatchewan	364	364	365	0.0	0.3
Alberta	1,298	1,303	1,309	0.4	0.5
British Columbia	1,543	1,552	1,566	0.6	0.9
Yukon	16	16	16	0.0	0.0
Northwest Territories and Nunavut	29	29	30	0.0	3.4

^r Revised estimates.

^p Preliminary estimates.

Crude oil and natural gas November 2000 (preliminary)

Exports of natural gas were up 3.4%, while Canadian domestic sales rose 8.0%.

Crude oil production totalled 10 665 600 cubic metres in November, up 1.0% from November 1999. Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Alberta all posted increases. Exports of crude oil decreased by 6.8% from November 1999.

Year-to-date production of crude oil increased 4.8% over the same period of 1999. Exports increased a strong 11.1% owing to higher demand for Canadian crude oil by U.S. refineries.

Marketable natural gas production increased 3.1% over November 1999. Domestic sales rose a strong 12.1%, reflecting higher demand by the residential, commercial and industrial sectors. Exports of natural gas were up 1.8% from November 1999.

Year-to-date marketable production of natural gas increased by 2.4% over the same period of 1999.

Crude oil and natural gas

	Nov. 1999	Nov. 2000	Nov. 1999 to Nov. 2000 % change
thousands of cubic metres			
Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons¹			
Production	10 563.7	10 665.6	1.0
Exports	6 706.2	6 250.3	-6.8
Imports ²	4 027.9	4 684.4	16.3
Refinery receipts	7 850.4	8 946.3	14.0
millions of cubic metres			
Natural gas³			
Marketable production	13 453.8	13 873.6	3.1
Exports	8 160.3	8 304.7	1.8
Canadian domestic sales ⁴	5 885.2	6 595.3	12.1
thousands of cubic metres			
Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons¹			
Production	111 401.3	116 753.4	4.8
Exports	65 723.7	73 025.1	11.1
Imports ²	43 725.6	48 024.6	9.8
Refinery receipts	89 098.3	91 694.1	2.9
millions of cubic metres			
Natural gas³			
Marketable production	147 833.7	151 364.8	2.4
Exports	86 865.2	89 819.4	3.4
Canadian domestic sales ⁴	59 181.0	63 913.4	8.0

¹ Disposition may differ from production because of inventory change, industry own-use, etc.

² Crude oil received by Canadian refineries from foreign countries for processing. Data may differ from International Trade Division estimates because of timing differences and the inclusion of crude oil landed in Canada for future re-export.

³ Disposition may differ from production because of inventory change, usage as pipeline fuel, pipeline losses, line-pack fluctuations, etc.

⁴ Includes direct sales.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 530 and 539.

The November 2000 issue of *Supply and disposition of crude oil and natural gas* (26-006-XPB, \$19/\$186) will be available in February. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gerry Desjardins (613-951-4368; desjger@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Full-time enrolment in trade/vocational and preparatory/special training 1997/98

In 1997/98, 250,022 students enrolled full time in trade/vocational and preparatory/special training programs and courses in community colleges, 4.4% fewer than in 1996/97.

The students in preparatory/special training account for the decrease in overall enrolment; enrolment in this category dropped 10.1% from 1996/97. Preparatory/special training programs and courses focus mainly on workplace skills and on increasing the employability of persons entering or re-entering the work force. They vary from academic upgrading and language training to job search skills. They also include orientation and customized training courses to introduce students to a range of occupations and trades. Enrolments in these programs and courses tend to increase during economic downturns and to decrease during periods of economic and labour force growth.

Full-time enrolment in trade/vocational and preparatory/special training

	1996/97	1997/98	1996/97 to 1997/98 % change
Preparatory/special training	125,286	112,626	-10.1
Trade/vocational	136,110	137,396	0.9
Fields of study			
Arts	8,368	8,789	5.0
Business and commerce	28,279	28,825	1.9
Engineering and applied sciences	79,397	79,627	0.3
Health sciences and related	6,310	6,126	-2.9
Natural sciences and primary industries	7,639	8,266	8.2
Social sciences and services	5,959	5,489	-7.9
Other	158	274	73.4
Total	261,396	250,022	-4.4

Enrolments in the trade/vocational group of programs increased a slight 0.9%. This group consists of pre-employment/pre-apprenticeship programs designed to provide basic employment skills for entry into an occupation or apprenticeship program. Also included are skills-upgrading courses to introduce new technology to persons with prior training and work experience in an occupation. In addition, this group includes registered apprentices taking in-class instruction in combination with on-the-job experience to complete their apprenticeship training.

The largest proportion of enrolments in trade/vocational programs are in engineering and

applied sciences and business and commerce. While most fields of study saw higher enrolments in 1997/98, the health sciences and related and social sciences and services areas decreased slightly.

To obtain more information on enrolments in full-time trade/vocational and preparatory/special training programs and courses, contact Sharon-Anne Borde (613-951-1503; fax: 613-951-9040; bordsha@statcan.ca).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Karl Skof (613-951-1529; fax: 613-951-6765; skofkar@statcan.ca) or Bernard Bourgoin (613-951-1506; fax: 613-951-6765; bourber@statcan.ca) Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. ■

Stocks of frozen meat products

January 2001

Total frozen red meat in cold storage at the opening of the first business day of January amounted to 57 508 metric tonnes, compared with 55 376 tonnes in December 2000 and 61 751 tonnes in January 2000.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 87 and 9518-9525.

Stocks of frozen meat products (23-009-XIE, free) is available on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca). From the *Products and services* page, choose *Free publications*, then *Agriculture*.

For more information, call 1-800-216-2299. To enquire about the concepts, methodology or data quality of this release, contact Barbara McLaughlin, (902-893-7251; barbara.mclaughlin@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Electric power selling price indexes

September to December 2000

Electric power selling price indexes (1992=100) are now available for September to December 2000.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 1880.

The December 2000 issue of *Industry price indexes* (62-011-XPB, \$22/\$217) will be available in February. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Denise Potvin (613-951-3350; fax: 613-951-1539), Prices Division. ■

Coal production

2000 (preliminary)

Data on the volume and value of production of coal by province are now available for 2000.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Serge Grenier (613-951-3566; grenser@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Oil and gas extraction

2000 (preliminary)

Data on the volume and value of marketable production of crude oil and natural gas, by province or territory, are now available for the year 2000.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gary Smallridge (613-951-3567; smalgar@statcan.ca) or Denis Ouellette (613-951-5452; ouelden@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

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Retail trade, November 2000
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Travel-log, Winter 2001
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Travel-log, Winter 2001
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

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