



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Monday, October 1, 2001**

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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There are no major releases today.

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## OTHER RELEASES

### Department store sales and stocks August 2001

Department store sales totalled \$1.68 billion (seasonally adjusted) in August, down 2.9% from July. This decline is the first in six months. While lower in August, department store sales were still at a near-record level, the second highest after July's record \$1.73 billion.

Despite the drop in August, the upward movement of department store sales that began in the spring of 2000 is continuing. Previously, sales had been declining since September 1999, following a period of increases that lasted more than a year.

Department store sales, unadjusted for seasonality, advanced 10.4% in August compared with August 2000. Sales were up in all provinces. The group formed by Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island reported the largest year-over-year increase (+22.9%); part of the increase was attributable to the opening of new stores in the spring of 2001. The region formed by British Columbia, Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut (+12.6%) and Alberta (+12.5%) followed with large annual increases. The other provinces reported year-over-year increases of at least 7.0% in August.

### Department store sales including concessions

	Aug. 2000	Aug. 2001	Aug. 2000 to Aug. 2001	Jan. to Aug. 2001	Jan.-Aug. 2000 to Jan.-Aug. 2001
Not seasonally adjusted					
	\$ millions		% change	\$ millions	% change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>1,476.8</b>	<b>1,631.0</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>11,395.8</b>	<b>8.7</b>
Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island <sup>1</sup>	33.3	40.9	22.9	252.7	18.4
Nova Scotia	44.7	48.4	8.1	319.9	2.6
New Brunswick	36.8	39.7	7.8	254.3	5.4
Quebec	267.0	291.4	9.1	2,090.1	6.9
Ontario	630.4	692.2	9.8	4,839.4	8.0
Manitoba	60.7	66.2	8.9	466.9	8.1
Saskatchewan	52.7	57.1	8.4	407.8	9.7
Alberta	179.1	201.4	12.5	1,407.1	13.4
British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut <sup>1</sup>	172.0	193.7	12.6	1,357.6	10.2

<sup>1</sup> For reasons of confidentiality, data for Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island are combined as are data for British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Available on CANSIM: tables 760001-760004.

To order data, or for 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; [clerance.kimanyi@statcan.ca](mailto:clerance.kimanyi@statcan.ca)), Distributive Trades Division. ■

### Canada/Mexico/United States merchandise trade reconciliation 1998 to 1999

When countries produce statistics on their merchandise trade with the rest of the world, that data often differs with those published by their trading partners. These differences reflect both legitimate conceptual differences between import and export statistics and possible errors. Agencies from Canada, Mexico and the United States have done a reconciliation study to identify and quantify the causes of the differences in trade between the three nations. The results of this study do not constitute revisions to any country's official statistics; however, they do help improve the understanding of the three countries' trade statistics.

The participants in the project were: the International Trade Division of Statistics Canada; the Mexican Working Group on Foreign Trade Statistics, which comprises the Secretariat of Treasury and Public Credit, the Bank of Mexico, the Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development, and the National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics (INEGI); the U.S. Customs Service and the Foreign Trade Division of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. Statistics Canada, INEGI and the U.S. Bureau of Census have collaborated both to develop the reconciliation estimates and prepare this report.

Canada and the United States participated in a data exchange, in which the export statistics of each country are derived from the counterpart import data; therefore, there are no unexplained differences in their trade statistics. However, differences in the official trade statistics of Canada and Mexico and of the United States and Mexico are sizeable. Discrepancies between Canadian and Mexican statistics were significant. In 1998, Mexico's import trade statistics exceeded

Canada's exports by \$1.9 billion and \$2.7 billion in 1999. The difference in northbound trade between Mexican exports and Canadian imports was \$5.4 billion in 1998 and \$6.0 billion in 1999.

### Comparison of Mexican and Canadian trade statistics

	1998	1999	1998	1999
	Southbound trade		Northbound trade	
	\$ millions			
Mexican statistics	3,401	4,382	2,257	3,553
Canadian statistics	1,468	1,633	7,680	9,629
Difference	1,933	2,749	-5,424	-6,076

The reconciliation study found that indirect trade was the main source of discrepancy between Canada and Mexico in both directions of trade.

The Mexican release is available at <http://www.inegi.gob.mx/difusion/ingles/portadai.html> and the United States release at <http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/www>.

For more information, to obtain a more detailed report, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of the Canadian release, contact Jocelyn Elibani (613-951-9786; fax 613-951-0117; [trade@statacan.ca](mailto:trade@statacan.ca)), International Trade Division. ■

### Electric power selling price indexes

May to August 2001

Electric power selling price indexes (1992=100) are now available for May to August.

Available on CANSIM: table 3290013.

The August 2001 issue of *Industry price indexes* (62-011-XPB, \$22/\$217) 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 the Client Services Unit (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; [infounit@statcan.ca](mailto:infounit@statcan.ca)) or Danielle Gouin (613-951-3375; [danielle.gouin@statcan.ca](mailto:danielle.gouin@statcan.ca)), Prices Division. ■

### Steel pipe and tubing

July 2001

Steel pipe and tubing production totalled 185 245 metric tonnes in July, a 17.6% increase from 157 502 tonnes in July 2000.

Year-to-date production to the end of July totalled 1 517 729 tonnes, down 3.7% from 1 576 138 tonnes during the same period in 2000.

Available on CANSIM: table 3030003.

The July 2001 issue of *Steel pipe and tubing*, Vol. 25, no. 7 (41-011-XIB, \$5/\$47) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; [manufact@statcan.ca](mailto:manufact@statcan.ca)). 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. ■

### Gross domestic product benchmark values 1981 to 1998

Benchmark values for gross domestic product (GDP) at basic prices in current dollars for 1981 to 1998 are now available. These data represent GDP benchmark values of the System of National Accounts.

These data are based on North American Industry Classification System. They are available now as custom tailored tables and on a cost-recovery basis.

This service is now available (15C0004).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Ronald Rioux (613-951-3697), Input-Output Division. ■

### The Social policy simulation database and model

1997

The *Social policy simulation database and model* (SPSD/M), Version 9.0, based on 1997 microdata, is now available. The SPSP/M is a static microsimulation model. It comprises a database, a series of tax/transfer algorithms and models, analytical software and user documentation. The SPSP/M has been produced as an occasional product since 1985. It has been in wide use by policy analysts in Canada studying virtually every change to the tax and transfer system since that time.

The SPSP/M is a tool designed to analyze the financial interactions of governments and individuals or families in Canada. It allows estimation of the income redistributive effects or cost implications of changes in the personal taxation and cash transfer system. The SPSP/M helps researchers examine the potential impacts of changes in taxes, earnings, demographic trends and many other factors. It can be used to study federal and provincial tax and transfer changes from 1988 through 2005.

The SPSP/M allows us to answer "what-if" questions. What if there were a change to the

taxes Canadians paid or transfers they received—who would gain and who would lose? Would single-parent households in a particular province be better off? By how much? How much extra money would federal or provincial governments collect or pay out?

The *Social policy simulation database and model*, Version 9.0 (89F0002XCB, CD-ROM, \$5,000/\$12,500)

is now available. To order a copy, contact Dominique Paré (613-951-1782). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Brian Murphy (613-951-3769; [spsdm@statcan.ca](mailto:spsdm@statcan.ca)), Social and Economic Studies Division. ■

## NEW PRODUCTS

**Steel pipe and tubing**, Vol. 25, no. 7, July 2001  
Catalogue number **41-011-XIB** (\$5/\$47).

**Retail trade**, Vol. 73, no. 7, July 2001  
Catalogue number **63-005-XPB** (\$21/\$206).

**Social policy simulation database and model**  
Version 9.0, 1997  
Catalogue number **89F0002XCB** (\$5,000/\$12,500).

**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.

### How to order products

#### Order products by phone:

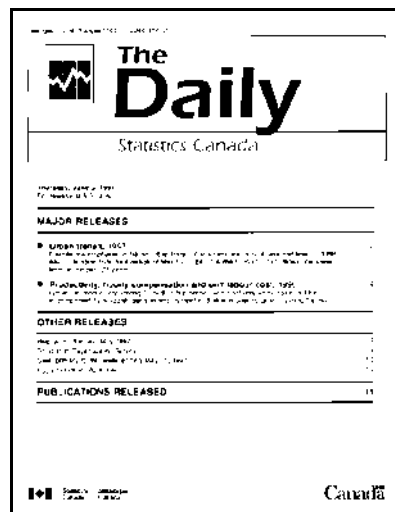
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#### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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# The Daily

Statistics Canada

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	July 2001	September 28, 2001
<b>Annual Survey of Manufacturers</b>	1999	September 19, 2001
<b>Aquaculture statistics</b>	2000	September 27, 2001
<b>Asphalt roofing</b>	August 2001	September 25, 2001
<b>Biotechnology Survey</b>	1997	September 25, 2001
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