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# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

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## MAJOR RELEASES


- **Industrial product and raw materials price indexes,** September 2001 — 2
  The annual rate of growth in industrial product prices was the same in September as in August. Raw materials prices continued to decline compared with September 2000, their fourth consecutive month of negative growth.


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## NEW PRODUCTS

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# MAJOR RELEASES

## Industrial product and raw materials price indexes

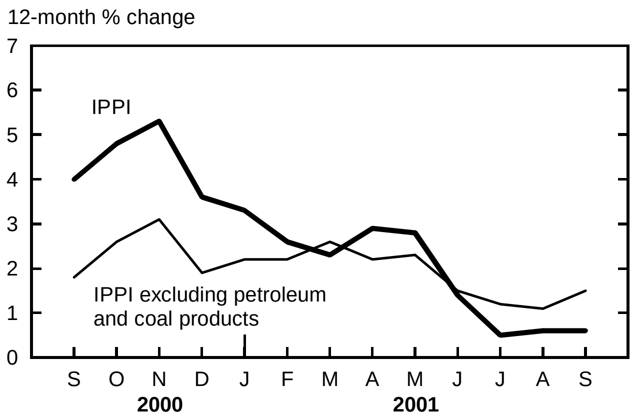
September 2001

The annual rate of growth in industrial product prices was the same in September as in August. Raw materials prices continued to decline compared with September 2000, their fourth consecutive month of negative growth.

Manufacturers' prices, as measured by the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI), grew 0.6% in September compared with September 2000; August saw a similar year-over-year gain of 0.6%.

Petroleum and coal product prices fell 9.6% in September compared with September 2000, for a third consecutive month of negative growth. If petroleum and coal product prices were excluded, the IPPI would have risen 1.5% instead of 0.6%.

**Petroleum product prices dampened IPPI growth**




Price increases for motor vehicles, lumber and meat products were the major contributors to the annual rise in manufacturers' prices. Falling prices for petroleum and coal products, primary metal products and pulp and paper products partly offset the yearly increase.

On a month-to-month basis, industrial prices were up 0.5% from August. Higher prices for motor vehicles and petroleum and coal products were partly offset by lower prices for meat products and lumber products.

Manufacturers paid 9.8% less for their raw materials in September than they did in September 2000. Mineral fuels were responsible for more than half of the decline in the Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI) in September, along with non-ferrous metals and wood products. If mineral fuels were excluded, the RMPI would have declined 3.9% on a year-over-year basis instead of falling 9.8%. These decreases were partly offset by higher prices for vegetable and animal products.

***Note to readers***

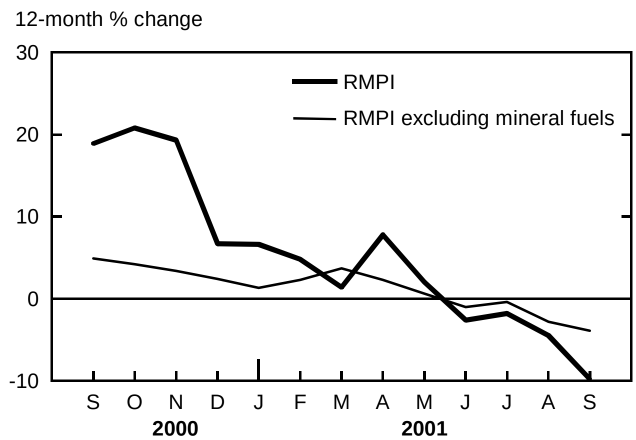
***Conversion of indexes to 1997 base year and classification change***

*In October, Statistics Canada will convert its economic series to 1997=100 as its time base. Series for Industrial Product Price Indexes, Raw Materials Price Indexes and the Electric Power Selling Price Indexes are being converted.*

*The release of October data will also include an important classification change. The indexes covering industries based on the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) will now be classified using the 1997 North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS). The conversion from SIC to NAICS caused significant breaks in the time series.*

*The indexes will be converted with the* Daily *release of October 2001 data. The indexes will also be updated using a 1997 weighting pattern. The new series will be on different CANSIM II tables and will have different databank numbers. The existing series, on the 1992 time base, will be terminated with the release of the September 2001 figures.*

**Crude oil prices influenced RMPI growth**




On a monthly basis, raw materials prices were down 2.4% in September from August. Lower prices for mineral fuels and animal products were somewhat offset by higher prices for non-ferrous metals.

The IPPI (1992=100) stood at 129.2 in September, up from a revised 128.5 in August. The RMPI

(1992=100) fell to 135.4 in September from a revised 138.8 in August.

### Crude oil and lumber prices decline

In the RMPI, crude oil prices were 5.1% lower in September than in August, on expectations of weaker demand. This decrease was not reflected in the IPPI; petroleum and coal product prices were up 3.5% from August.

Lumber and other wood product prices fell 1.3% in September from August. Lower prices for softwood lumber were the major factor behind this monthly decrease, due in part to high inventory and uncertainty in the market. On an annual basis, prices for lumber and other wood products were up 11.1% in September from September 2000.

### Exchange rate effect pushes prices up

From August to September, the value of the U.S. dollar strengthened against the Canadian dollar, pushing up prices of commodities that are quoted in U.S. dollars, notably automobiles. The impact on the IPPI was such that if the exchange rate had remained unchanged, the IPPI would have declined 0.1% instead of rising 0.5%.

On a 12-month basis, the influence of the dollar was also evident. The IPPI was up 0.6% in September compared with September 2000, but without the exchange rate effect the IPPI would have fallen 0.9%.

### Motor vehicle prices still influences finished goods

Rising prices for motor vehicles pushed year-over-year prices up for finished goods. Prices for tobacco products, meat, fish and dairy products and electrical and communication products also contributed to the 3.3% increase from September 2000.

On a monthly basis, prices for finished goods were up 1.1% from August. Higher prices for motor vehicles and petroleum products were slightly offset by lower prices for meat, fish and dairy products.

"Finished goods" are those generally purchased for the purpose of either consumption or investment. Most of the foods and feeds category ends up in the hands of consumers. Most capital goods are equipment and machinery generally bought as investment by companies, government agencies, or governments. Much of the remainder is bought by consumers.

### Prices for input goods continue to decline

Producers of intermediate goods received 1.2% less for their goods in September compared with September 2000. Lower prices for pulp and paper products, primary metals products and petroleum products were the major contributors to this decline. These decreases were partly offset by higher prices for motor vehicles, lumber products and meat, fish and dairy products.

Prices for input goods edged up 0.2% from August. Higher prices for petroleum products and motor vehicles were more than offset by lower prices for primary metal, lumber and meat, fish and dairy products.

"Intermediate goods," sometimes referred to as "input goods," are goods that are generally bought by manufacturers to be further used in the production process, that is, to make other goods.

### Available on CANSIM: tables 3290001-3290012 and 3300001.

The September 2001 issue of *Industry price indexes*(62-011-XPB, $22/$217) will be available in November. 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*) or Danielle Gouin (613-951-3375; *danielle.gouin@statcan.ca*), Prices Division. □

## Industrial product price indexes
(1992=100)

| | Relative importance | September 2000 | August 2001[r] | September 2001[p] | September 2000 to September 2001 | August to September 2001 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | % change | |
| **Industrial product price index** | **100.00** | **128.4** | **128.5** | **129.2** | **0.6** | **0.5** |
| **Intermediate goods**[1] | **59.28** | **129.8** | **128.0** | **128.3** | **-1.2** | **0.2** |
| First-stage intermediate goods[2] | 7.91 | 146.8 | 126.3 | 125.9 | -14.2 | -0.3 |
| Second-stage intermediate goods[3] | 51.37 | 127.2 | 128.3 | 128.7 | 1.2 | 0.3 |
| **Finished goods**[4] | **40.72** | **126.2** | **129.0** | **130.4** | **3.3** | **1.1** |
| Finished foods and feeds | 10.38 | 116.9 | 119.9 | 119.6 | 2.3 | -0.3 |
| Capital equipment | 10.21 | 125.8 | 129.9 | 131.3 | 4.4 | 1.1 |
| All other finished goods | 20.13 | 131.2 | 133.2 | 135.4 | 3.2 | 1.7 |
| **Aggregation by commodities** | | | | | | |
| Meat, fish and dairy products | 7.27 | 124.3 | 132.3 | 130.7 | 5.1 | -1.2 |
| Fruit, vegetable, feed, miscellaneous food products | 6.72 | 110.9 | 113.7 | 113.6 | 2.4 | -0.1 |
| Beverages | 2.12 | 121.3 | 122.6 | 122.7 | 1.2 | 0.1 |
| Tobacco and tobacco products | 0.72 | 147.7 | 162.1 | 162.1 | 9.7 | 0.0 |
| Rubber, leather, plastic and fabric products | 3.01 | 119.2 | 120.2 | 120.3 | 0.9 | 0.1 |
| Textile products | 1.82 | 107.7 | 109.9 | 110.1 | 2.2 | 0.2 |
| Knitted products and clothing | 1.93 | 111.1 | 110.7 | 110.9 | -0.2 | 0.2 |
| Lumber, sawmill, and other wood products | 5.20 | 127.4 | 143.3 | 141.5 | 11.1 | -1.3 |
| Furniture and fixtures | 1.46 | 119.6 | 121.0 | 121.1 | 1.3 | 0.1 |
| Pulp and paper products | 7.65 | 147.4 | 136.3 | 136.6 | -7.3 | 0.2 |
| Printing and publishing | 3.05 | 139.3 | 142.5 | 143.1 | 2.7 | 0.4 |
| Primary metal products | 7.58 | 129.4 | 117.5 | 117.4 | -9.3 | -0.1 |
| Metal fabricated products | 4.11 | 125.3 | 126.5 | 126.7 | 1.1 | 0.2 |
| Machinery and equipment | 4.08 | 115.1 | 116.4 | 117.0 | 1.7 | 0.5 |
| Autos, trucks, other transportation equipment | 18.76 | 132.3 | 137.7 | 140.1 | 5.9 | 1.7 |
| Electrical and communications products | 6.03 | 105.2 | 105.8 | 106.5 | 1.2 | 0.7 |
| Non-metallic mineral products | 2.12 | 118.9 | 121.4 | 121.5 | 2.2 | 0.1 |
| Petroleum and coal products[5] | 6.01 | 175.9 | 153.7 | 159.1 | -9.6 | 3.5 |
| Chemicals and chemical products | 7.60 | 124.4 | 124.5 | 124.6 | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Miscellaneous manufactured products | 2.45 | 119.7 | 121.8 | 122.6 | 2.4 | 0.7 |
| Miscellaneous non-manufactured commodities | 0.31 | 120.5 | 115.3 | 116.3 | -3.5 | 0.9 |

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 | September 2000 | August 2001[r] | September 2001[p] | September 2000 to September 2001 | August to September 2001 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | % change | |
| **Raw materials price index (RMPI)** | **100.00** | **150.1** | **138.8** | **135.4** | **-9.8** | **-2.4** |
| Mineral fuels | 31.47 | 208.8 | 181.0 | 172.6 | -17.3 | -4.6 |
| Vegetable products | 9.41 | 112.8 | 122.7 | 123.6 | 9.6 | 0.7 |
| Animals and animal products | 24.41 | 116.7 | 124.8 | 120.8 | 3.5 | -3.2 |
| Wood | 14.88 | 141.9 | 124.9 | 124.2 | -12.5 | -0.6 |
| Ferrous materials | 3.17 | 118.0 | 117.3 | 118.6 | 0.5 | 1.1 |
| Non-ferrous metals | 13.81 | 122.7 | 101.7 | 103.4 | -15.7 | 1.7 |
| Non-metallic minerals | 2.85 | 122.3 | 123.1 | 122.0 | -0.2 | -0.9 |
| **RMPI excluding mineral fuels** | **68.53** | **123.1** | **119.4** | **118.3** | **-3.9** | **-0.9** |

r *Revised figures.*
p *Preliminary figures.*

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# OTHER RELEASES

## Employment, earnings and hours

August 2001 (preliminary)

Average weekly earnings for all employees rose $2.73 to $668.52 in August. On a year-over-year basis, average weekly earnings were up 1.8 percent, short of the 2.8% year-over-year growth in the consumer price index in August.

For most provinces, average weekly earnings were slightly higher than in August 2000. The provinces with the strongest earnings growth in the past year were Alberta (+2.8), Saskatchewan (+2.2%) and Newfoundland (+2.0%).

Average hourly earnings for hourly paid employees were $17.00 in August, up 10 cents from July and up 2.4% from August 2000. Average weekly hours for hourly paid employees were down 0.1 to 31.2 hours, and average overtime hours were virtually unchanged from July.

In August, the number of employees on payrolls rose a slight 8,700, or 0.1%. The largest employment gain was in transportation and warehousing, due mostly to the end of the public transit strike in Vancouver. The largest employment loss by industry was in durable goods manufacturing—most of the losses were in Ontario. Alberta had the largest employment gain, +4,600, with small employment gains in most industries.

**Note:** With the release of January 2001 data, the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours began publishing its estimates based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). The NAICS-based estimates are not comparable with the previously published estimates based on the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) of 1980. To aid this transition, a NAICS-based historical database from January 1991 to December 2000 has been produced. A concordance table showing NAICS and corresponding SIC codes is available on request. A description of the conversion process and its impact on the data is also available in the January 2001 issue of Employment, Earnings and Hours (72-002-XIB, $24/$240) or may be obtained from Jean Leduc (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-2869; *labour@statcan.ca*. For more information on the NAICS, see the *Statistical methods* page on Statistics Canada's Web site (*www.statcan.ca*).

**Available on CANSIM: tables 2810023-2810040.**

Detailed industry data and other labour market indicators will be available in the November standard tables in the monthly publication *Employment, earnings and hours* (72-002-XIB, $24/$240). Annual averages for 2000 are now available on CANSIM and by custom tabulations from the 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 Robert Frindt or Jean Leduc (1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-2869; *labour@statcan.ca*), Labour Statistics Division. □

## Average weekly earnings for all employees

| Industry group (North American Industry Classification System) | August 2000 | July 2001[r] | August 2001[p] | July to August 2001 | August 2000 to August 2001 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | seasonally adjusted | | | | |
| | $ | | | % change | |
| **Industrial aggregate** | **656.99** | **665.79** | **668.52** | **0.4** | **1.8** |
| Forestry, logging and support | 796.58 | 833.44 | 837.27 | 0.5 | 5.1 |
| Mining and oil and gas | 1,149.86 | 1,145.31 | 1,140.58 | -0.4 | -0.8 |
| Utilities | 1,001.52 | 1,003.25 | 1,004.51 | 0.1 | 0.3 |
| Construction | 806.89 | 799.90 | 804.78 | 0.6 | -0.3 |
| Manufacturing | 804.13 | 809.88 | 814.98 | 0.6 | 1.3 |
| Wholesale trade | 758.01 | 772.81 | 779.74 | 0.9 | 2.9 |
| Retail trade | 425.39 | 427.84 | 428.13 | 0.1 | 0.6 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 728.80 | 737.83 | 742.00 | 0.6 | 1.8 |
| Information and cultural industries | 764.93 | 790.79 | 795.79 | 0.6 | 4.0 |
| Finance and insurance | 838.73 | 849.44 | 855.54 | 0.7 | 2.0 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | 603.03 | 601.28 | 608.17 | 1.1 | 0.9 |
| Professional, scientific and technical services | 867.87 | 888.23 | 890.19 | 0.2 | 2.6 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 827.41 | 839.39 | 839.32 | 0.0 | 1.4 |
| Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services | 525.02 | 531.65 | 532.10 | 0.1 | 1.3 |
| Educational Services | 687.19 | 692.97 | 699.46 | 0.9 | 1.8 |
| Health care and social assistance | 565.46 | 583.22 | 585.65 | 0.4 | 3.6 |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation | 465.70 | 483.53 | 485.23 | 0.4 | 4.2 |
| Accommodation and food services | 274.42 | 284.79 | 288.23 | 1.2 | 5.0 |
| Other services (excluding public administration) | 507.63 | 520.35 | 523.25 | 0.6 | 3.1 |
| Public administration | 746.03 | 758.73 | 759.38 | 0.1 | 1.8 |
| **Provinces and territories** | | | | | |
| Newfoundland | 592.85 | 601.89 | 604.91 | 0.5 | 2.0 |
| Prince Edward Island | 525.50 | 523.89 | 531.94 | 1.5 | 1.2 |
| Nova Scotia | 563.51 | 564.04 | 567.49 | 0.6 | 0.7 |
| New Brunswick | 592.96 | 591.15 | 595.49 | 0.7 | 0.4 |
| Quebec | 615.00 | 622.30 | 625.13 | 0.5 | 1.6 |
| Ontario | 702.57 | 712.90 | 716.37 | 0.5 | 2.0 |
| Manitoba | 591.71 | 598.88 | 601.45 | 0.4 | 1.6 |
| Saskatchewan | 590.37 | 597.91 | 603.36 | 0.9 | 2.2 |
| Alberta | 670.41 | 687.46 | 689.00 | 0.2 | 2.8 |
| British Columbia | 657.92 | 665.20 | 666.70 | 0.2 | 1.3 |
| Yukon | 750.72 | 754.19 | 757.07 | 0.4 | 0.8 |
| Northwest Territories[1] | .. | 859.37 | 863.91 | 0.5 | .. |
| Nunavut[1] | .. | 775.12 | 780.49 | 0.7 | .. |

r *Revised estimates.*
p *Preliminary estimates.*
1 *Data not seasonally adjusted.*
.. *Figures not available.*

### Number of employees

| Industry group (North American Industry Classification System) | June 2001 | July 2001[r] | August 2001[p] | June to July 2001 | July to August 2001 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | seasonally adjusted | | | | |
| | '000 | | | % change | |
| **Industrial aggregate** | **12,767** | **12,762** | **12,770** | **0.0** | **0.1** |
| Forestry, logging and support | 78 | 77 | 77 | -1.3 | 0.0 |
| Mining and oil and gas | 138 | 138 | 138 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Utilities | 112 | 112 | 112 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Construction | 575 | 574 | 576 | -0.2 | 0.3 |
| Manufacturing | 2,038 | 2,042 | 2,038 | 0.2 | -0.2 |
| Wholesale trade | 731 | 723 | 723 | -1.1 | 0.0 |
| Retail trade | 1,487 | 1,490 | 1,493 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 609 | 609 | 614 | 0.0 | 0.8 |
| Information and cultural industries | 342 | 343 | 344 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| Finance and insurance | 557 | 555 | 554 | -0.4 | -0.2 |
| Real estate and rental and leasing | 215 | 215 | 216 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| Professional, scientific and technical services | 646 | 643 | 642 | -0.5 | -0.2 |
| Management of companies and enterprises | 82 | 83 | 83 | 1.2 | 0.0 |
| Admininistrative and support, waste management and remediation services | 527 | 527 | 528 | 0.0 | 0.2 |
| Educational Services | 945 | 944 | 943 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| Health care and social assistance | 1,245 | 1,246 | 1,248 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Arts, entertainment and recreation | 220 | 220 | 222 | 0.0 | 0.9 |
| Accommodation and food services | 941 | 943 | 943 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Other services (excluding public administration) | 473 | 474 | 474 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| Public administration | 718 | 713 | 715 | -0.7 | 0.3 |
| **Provinces and territories** | | | | | |
| Newfoundland | 177 | 174 | 176 | -1.7 | 1.1 |
| Prince Edward Island | 56 | 57 | 57 | 1.8 | 0.0 |
| Nova Scotia | 359 | 355 | 357 | -1.1 | 0.6 |
| New Brunswick | 290 | 287 | 290 | -1.0 | 1.0 |
| Quebec | 3,001 | 3,004 | 3,000 | 0.1 | -0.1 |
| Ontario | 4,998 | 4,999 | 4,999 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Manitoba | 500 | 500 | 502 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| Saskatchewan | 368 | 367 | 367 | -0.3 | 0.0 |
| Alberta | 1,371 | 1,369 | 1,373 | -0.1 | 0.3 |
| British Columbia | 1,594 | 1,589 | 1,591 | -0.3 | 0.1 |
| Yukon | 15 | 15 | 15 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Northwest Territories[1] | 20 | 20 | 20 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| Nunavut[1] | 10 | 9 | 10 | -10.0 | 11.1 |

[r] *Revised estimates.*
[p] *Preliminary estimates.*
[1] *Data not seasonally adjusted.*

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## Telecommunications statistics
1999

Operating profits in the telecommunications industry rose 2.6% in 1999 even though only two of five sectors showed a profit, according to the annual Survey of Telecommunications. The industry recorded an overall operating profit of $3.9 billion, up $100 million from 1998. Operating revenues increased 1.8% to $29.0 billion, while operating expenses rose 1.7% to $25.1 billion.

Of the five telecommunications industries, only the wireline telephone industry and satellite service industry showed operating profits in 1999. Posting losses were: the wireless industry, consisting of cellular phone, paging and radio communications companies; reselling industries; and other telecommunications industries.

The industry's net income improved dramatically in 1999, posting a gain of $825 million compared with a $329 million loss in 1998. This change was due largely to the wireline industry's reporting much larger write-offs in 1998 than in 1999, a result of restructuring to prepare for pending market liberalizations.

Full-time employment continued its downward trend, slipping 3.0% from 1998 levels to 80,749 persons. In contrast, part-time employment increased 2.9%. Overall, there were 2.3% fewer people working in the industry. However, the decrease in employment did not lead to lower labour expenses, as salaries, wages and benefits increased 8.9%.

Revenue per employee (based on full-time equivalents) increased 5.3% from 1998. The wireless sector led the way at almost $382,000.

The wired sector reported the highest average full-time remuneration, $70,723.

The telecommunications industry continued its high level of capital spending ($5.98 billion) in 1999, although this was a 7.2% decline from 1998. Construction expenditures fell 28.2%, while machinery and equipment spending rose 3.5%.

There were almost 27 million voice-grade access paths to the public switched telephone network (PSTN), a 9.4% increase. This consisted of 20.1 million voice-grade access lines and 6.9 million mobile, or wireless, telephone channels (subscribers). Most of the growth in PSTN access in 1999 came from mobile services, which increased 29.1% over 1998. Almost 38% of mobile services, or 2.6 million subscribers, were digital at the end of 1999.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Haig McCarrell (613-951-5948), Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division. ■

## Construction type plywood

August 2001

Firms produced 158 215 cubic metres of construction-type plywood in August, up 1.9% from 155 327 cubic metres produced in August 2000.

Year-to-date production to the end of August totalled 1 366 660 cubic metres, an increase of 3.2% from 1 323 763 cubic metres in the same period of 2000.

**Available on CANSIM: table 3030005.**

The August 2001 issue of *Construction type plywood*, Vol. 49, no. 8 (35-001-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*). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sara Breen (613-951-3521; *sara.breen@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

# NEW PRODUCTS

**Construction type plywood**, Vol. 49, no. 8, August 2001
**Catalogue number 35-001-XIB** ($5/$47).

**Industry price indexes**, August 2001
**Catalogue number 62-011-XPB** ($22/$217).

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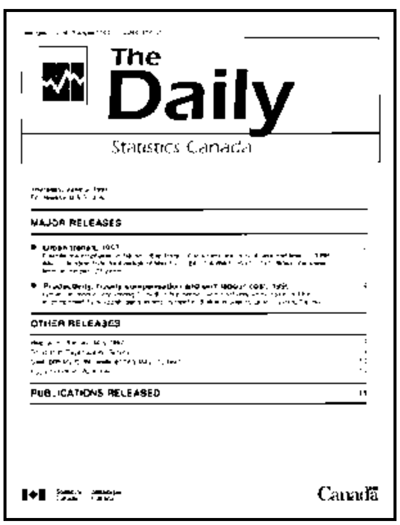
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