



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Tuesday, October 30, 2001**

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **Provincial gross domestic product, 2000** 2  
 Newfoundland and Alberta tied for the number-one ranking among the provinces in 2000, with 5.6% growth in GDP. The Northwest Territories posted the strongest increase in the country (+8.8%), on the strength of the energy sector and diamond-related construction.

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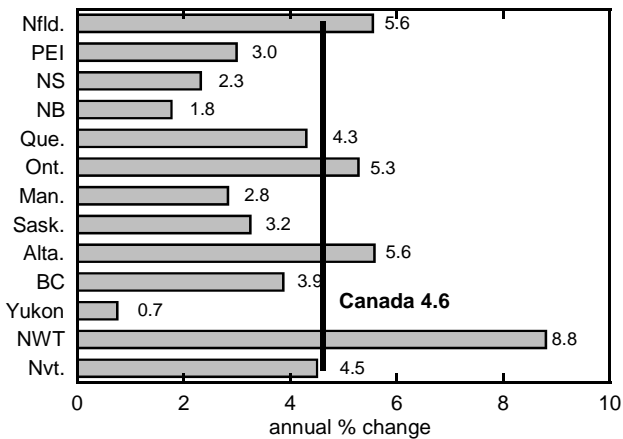
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## MAJOR RELEASES

### Provincial gross domestic product 2000

Gross domestic product (GDP) rose in all provinces and territories in 2000. Thanks to a booming energy sector, Newfoundland and Alberta tied for the number-one ranking among the 10 provinces, with 5.6% growth in GDP. Growth in Ontario (+5.3%) also outpaced the national average of 4.6%, as export demand for computers and telecommunications equipment compensated for weakness in the auto sector. The Northwest Territories posted the strongest increase in the country (+8.8%), on the strength of the energy sector and diamond-related construction.

GDP at 1997 prices, 2000



Canada enjoyed solid growth in 2000, with several themes emerging among the provincial economies. Computer- and communications-related fields continued to be a source of strength, despite a deceleration late in the year. Spectacular earnings from skyrocketing prices stimulated exploration activity for oil and natural gas. Growth in the auto sector levelled off after double-digit gains in 1999, and agriculture had a mixed showing.

Labour market conditions tightened, and the unemployment rate fell to 6.8%, the lowest average annual rate in over 25 years. Labour income, boosted by federal pay equity outlays, grew 6.8%, the largest increase in a decade. Corporation profits swelled more than 20% for the second consecutive year, inflated by high energy prices and healthy showings in the computer and telecommunications industries. Government coffers continued to burgeon, particularly

#### Note to readers

This release includes the provincial income and expenditure accounts and estimates of provincial real gross domestic product (GDP) by industry. Note the following changes.

Real GDP has been rebased from 1992 prices to 1997 prices.

The concept of GDP at factor cost has been replaced by a new concept, GDP at basic prices. This concept includes indirect taxes on factors of production. This change has been applied back to 1981, and has no impact on overall GDP at market prices.

Business and government expenditures on software, which were treated as current expenses, have become capital expenditures. This has had the effect of raising the level of provincial GDP from 1981 to the present.

The 1980 Standard Industrial Classification has been replaced with the 1997 North American Industrial Classification System. Provincial estimates of GDP at basic prices are available from 1997 for 100 industries. Data spanning 1984 to 1996 will be available in 2002.

For more information, consult Statistics Canada's Web site ([www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)). From the Statistical methods page, choose New measure of gross domestic product.

In the text of this release, all references to production (output) and to expenditure are at constant prices; all references to income are in current prices.

at the federal level. Business plant and equipment investment advanced robustly, and exports climbed, boosted by U.S. demand for energy products and goods related to information and communication technology.

Newfoundland's economy outpaced the national average for the third consecutive year, growing 5.6%. The oil extraction sector dominated the economic picture; iron ore mining also fared well. Tourism-related construction sustained growth in Prince Edward Island (+3.0%), offsetting weakness in agriculture, where shipments of potatoes were constrained by a U.S. import ban. The picture was mixed in Nova Scotia (+2.3%) and New Brunswick (+1.8%), where the completion of major projects led to a drop-off in construction activity.

Central Canada reaped the benefits of strong export demand for computers and telecommunications equipment, which compensated for a levelling-off of activity in the auto sector. Quebec's aerospace industry continued to expand at a torrid pace; exports of aircraft surged to meet world demand for regional jets. Overall economic growth in Quebec was 4.3%.

On the Prairies, Manitoba posted a moderate showing (+2.8%); a strong rebound in mining and expanded capacity in hog processing contributed to growth. Saskatchewan grew at a slightly higher

rate, 3.2%. Stellar gains in the energy sector offset declines in agriculture in Saskatchewan, and were the source of robust gains in Alberta (+5.6%).

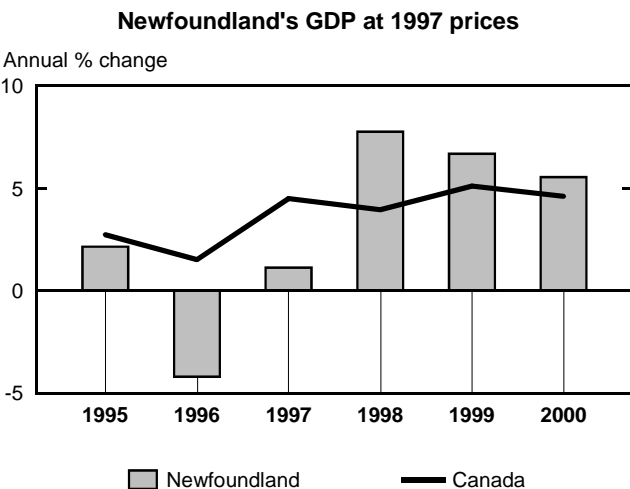
British Columbia's economy strengthened to 3.9% growth, the largest increase since 1993. Gains were broad-based; several industries advanced at a healthy pace.

Yukon's GDP rose a very moderate 0.7%, still hampered by metal mining woes. The Northwest Territories, however, posted a spectacular 8.8% advance; economic growth was boosted by diamond-related construction. Strength in mining and increased government investment were the source of a healthy 4.5% growth rate in Nunavut.

**Strength continues for Newfoundland**

For a third consecutive year, Newfoundland outpaced the national average, posting a strong 5.6% GDP growth rate. Corporate profits soared 72.8% and the oil extraction sector dominated the economic picture again. Crude oil pumped from the Port au Port Peninsula, combined with increased production from Hibernia, doubled the value of crude oil produced, reaching \$2.2 billion in 2000. The mining sector also posted strong gains, largely sustained by greater iron ore production.

Business investment in non-residential construction fell 39.5%, as major construction projects came to an end. The fishing industry declined, partly due to the first cod quota reduction since 1996.



The unemployment rate continued to decline, reaching 16.8%—the lowest rate for Newfoundland in

more than a decade but still Canada's highest. Labour income rose 7.3% in nominal terms, and real consumer spending advanced 2.9%.

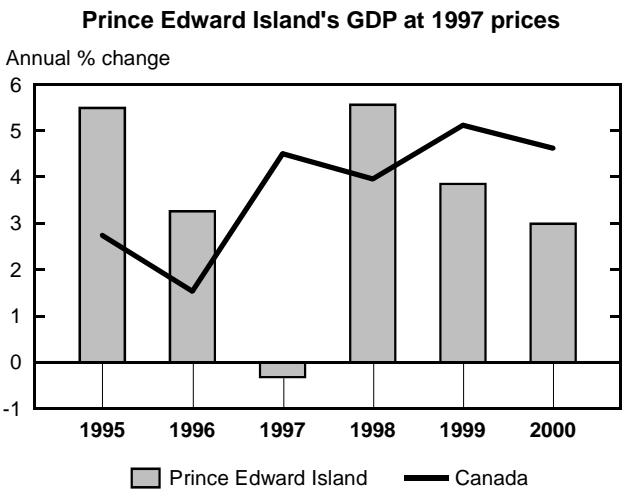
**Tourism brightens Prince Edward Island's picture**

The economy in Prince Edward Island grew 3.0%, down slightly from 1999's performance. Business investment in non-residential construction climbed 16.5% with the building of food and beverage stores and hotels and motels to meet the new tourism demand.

Other sectors also fared well. Communications industries surged, led by growth in both long-distance services and cellular phone use. For a third consecutive year, corporations' profits posted double-digit growth.

In contrast, the agriculture sector was held back, in part by the detection of a potato fungus that resulted in an import ban from the United States. Overall export growth continued to decelerate.

Labour income jumped 8.2% in nominal terms, leading to a 5.1% rise in personal income. Federal pay equity payments had an important impact in Prince Edward Island, since it has the highest share of federal government employees to total employment of all the provinces.



**Growth moderates in Nova Scotia**

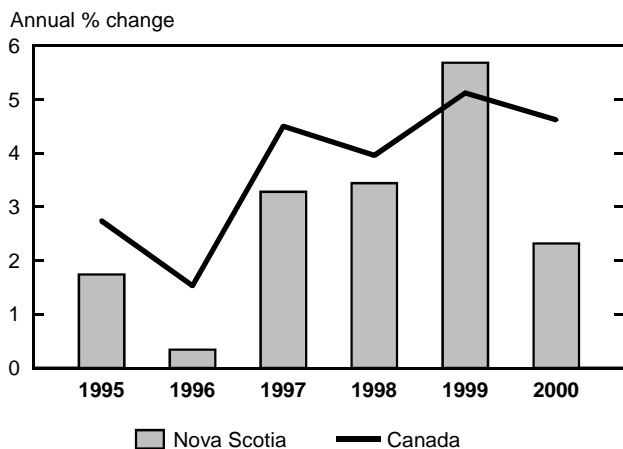
Nova Scotia's economy slowed to a moderate 2.3% advance following a stronger performance in 1999. The winding-down of the major construction project associated with offshore gas and oil contributed to a sharp drop in business investment in non-residential

construction. On a brighter note, Sable Island started production of natural gas earlier in the year, propelling the industry's output and contributing to surging exports.

Communications industries continued to show strength, as cellular phone use increased and long distance traffic benefited from cut-rate plans and a new call centre in Dartmouth. International exports of other commodities also grew at double-digit rates, including passenger car tires, truck and bus tires and wood pulp.

The unemployment rate declined half a point to 9.1%, the lowest rate in over 25 years.

**Nova Scotia's GDP at 1997 prices**



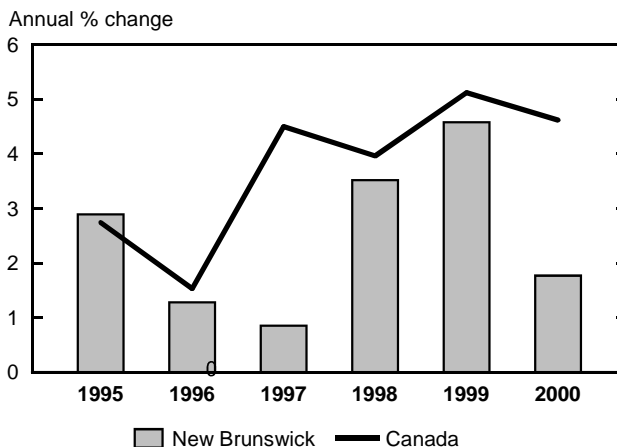
**New Brunswick shows a mixed picture**

The New Brunswick economy grew 1.8% in 2000, following a flourishing year in 1999. Several major industrial projects came to an end, causing business non-residential construction to shrink 22.3% after stellar growth in the previous two years.

The manufacturing sector advanced 2.7%, with pockets of strength in fish processing, pulp and paperboard products and smelting and refining. International exports of wood pulp rose sharply, but were partly offset by a drop in energy products.

Labour income jumped, following a strong 1999. The unemployment rate edged down to 10.1%, the lowest in over 25 years. Consumer spending continued to rise, and housing investment advanced 12.4%.

**New Brunswick's GDP at 1997 prices**



**Another healthy advance in Quebec**

Quebec's GDP advanced a healthy 4.3% in 2000, slightly below the growth of the Canadian economy. The aerospace industry continued to expand at a blistering pace; exports jumped 25.5% to meet world demand for regional jets. Export strength in telecommunications equipment and newsprint also helped push manufacturing ahead. Telecommunications carriers benefited from increased long distance traffic and cellular phone use.

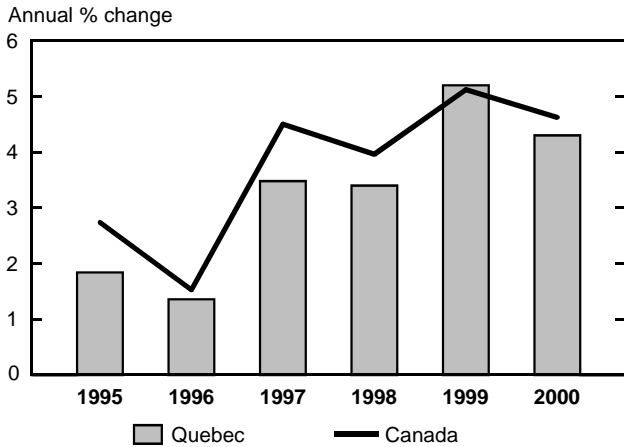
Wholesalers' production posted a healthy advance thanks to increased manufacturing activity, mostly destined for export. Corporation profits jumped 13.8% on the heels of a stronger increase in 1999.

Business investment in plant and equipment climbed 10.2%, continuing a string of robust years. Quebec's construction industry benefited from increased investment in electric power infrastructure and non-residential buildings, while housing suffered a mild contraction.

The annual average unemployment rate reached a 25-year low, and labour income rose 6.4%, continuing the acceleration of the past five years. Personal spending on durable goods also grew strongly.

**Note:** An error was found in the estimates of government current expenditures on goods and services for Quebec for 1999 and 2000. While the data included in this release have been corrected, corrections to the estimates in CANSIM will be made on or before Friday November 2.

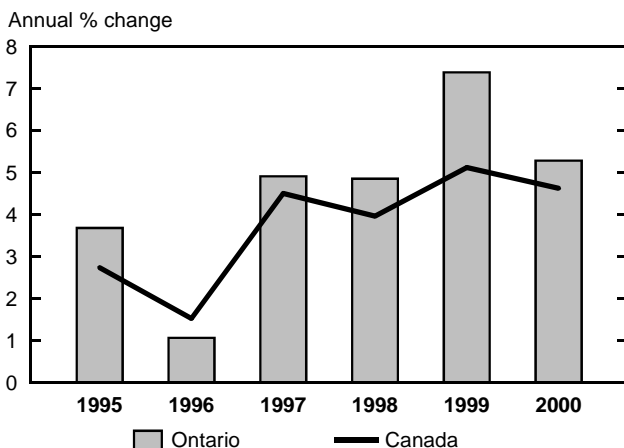
**Quebec's GDP at 1997 prices**



**Ontario's strong growth continues**

Gross domestic product advanced 5.3% in Ontario, outpacing the national average for the fourth consecutive year. An export-focussed manufacturing sector led the growth; stellar gains in exports of computers, integrated circuits and telecommunications equipment more than offset declines in auto exports. Final domestic demand also remained strong (+4.9%), as both investment and personal expenditure posted solid gains. Consumer purchases of durables grew 7.3%, and the housing market posted another healthy increase on top of 1999's exceptional advance.

**Ontario's GDP at 1997 prices**



Continued strength in cellular-phone and long-distance use stimulated output of telecommunications service providers.

Ontario's labour market continued to tighten; employment grew 3.2% and the annual average unemployment rate fell to 5.7%, the lowest annual rate in over a decade. Personal income advanced 6.4% in nominal terms, on the strength of another robust labour income gain.

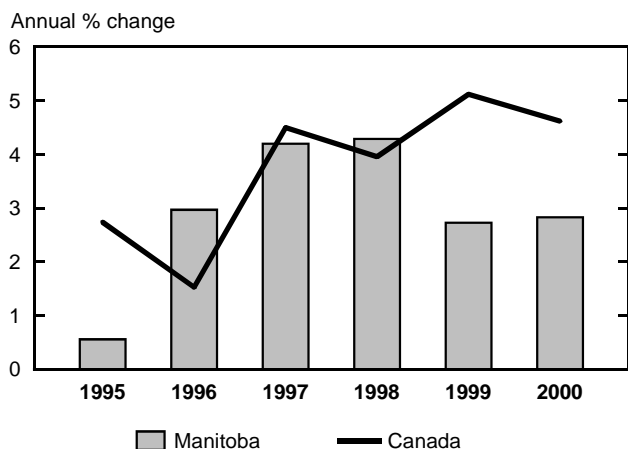
**Moderate advance in Manitoba**

Manitoba's GDP grew 2.8%, roughly the same pace as in 1999, and well short of the national average. A strong rebound in the mining industry and expanded capacity in food processing were among the main sources of strength. Business investment in non-residential structures fell 2.1% following the completion of several major projects, including a hog processing plant in Brandon. This expanded capacity led to production increases in the meat products industry exceeding 25%. Mining posted a double-digit increase, bouncing back from a prolonged strike at the nickel mine in Thompson.

The volume of output grew 4.2% in agriculture, with significant increases in the production of wheat and barley and hogs. However, weak commodity prices constrained earnings for wheat producers.

Housing investment declined 2.4%, the fourth consecutive annual drop.

**Manitoba's GDP at 1997 prices**



**Saskatchewan's growth sustained by energy sector**

Growth in Saskatchewan picked up 3.2%, led by advances in the energy sector and manufacturing, but

agriculture registered a decline. Strong U.S. demand led to double-digit increases in export volumes of crude oil. As prices shot up, oil exports nearly doubled in value, and corporation profits swelled more than 40%.

Manufacturing was another key source of strength, as continuing expansion in communication cable and energy wire led to important production gains.

Despite strong oil and gas exploration activity, business investment in non-residential construction fell, largely due to the winding down of the massive Alliance pipeline project in the latter half of the year. Residential construction investment also contracted, falling 4.3%.

Heavy rains late in the harvest season, along with low world prices for wheat and canola, led to a 4.5% decline in agricultural production.

Saskatchewan's population shrank for the second year in a row as out-migration reached levels not seen in more than a decade. An unchanged labour force, coupled with modest employment gains, pushed the unemployment rate down to 5.2%, the lowest annual rate since 1981.

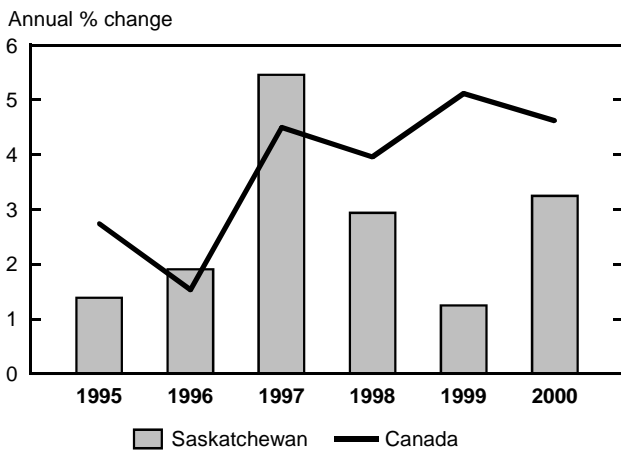
Machinery and equipment investment posted a similar gain. Corporation profits took off, rising a striking 75.5%.

The boom in the energy sector extended to manufacturing, where growth was particularly strong for downstream industries. Professional services, such as engineering and computer consulting, also benefited from the expanded activity. Other manufacturers also reaped the benefits of strong U.S. demand—producers of telecommunications equipment, furniture, clothing and chemicals all raised output. While agricultural production was down due to lower field crop harvests, cattle and hog producers expanded operations to take advantage of higher prices.

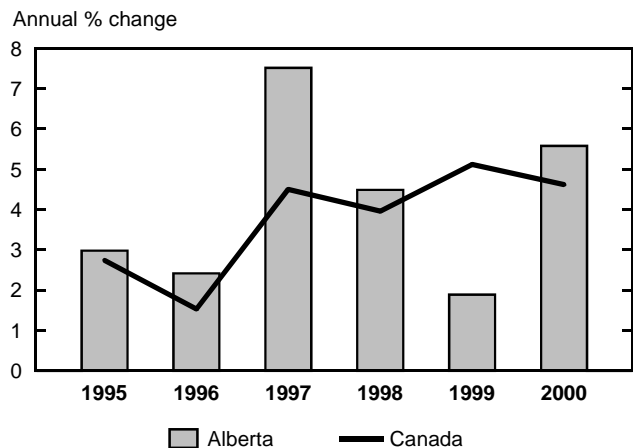
Rising prices for Alberta-produced export commodities led to a 15.9% jump in the overall implicit price index for gross domestic product.

Personal income increased a robust 7.7% in nominal terms, and consumer spending gained 5.1%. Favourable labour market conditions continued to attract job-seekers from the rest of Canada. Still, the unemployment rate declined to 5.0%.

Saskatchewan's GDP at 1997 prices



Alberta's GDP at 1997 prices



**Oil patch fuels robust growth in Alberta**

The Alberta economy advanced a robust 5.6%, matching Newfoundland's performance as the best of the 10 provinces in 2000. Rising prices and sustained U.S. demand fueled growth in the energy sector, leading to higher exports of crude oil and natural gas. Exploration and drilling activity soared to near-record levels, boosting the growth of non-residential construction investment to over 20%.

**Economy strengthens in British Columbia**

British Columbia's GDP advanced 3.9%, the strongest showing since 1993. Strength in the economy was broad-based, with most major industries advancing. Manufacturing, business and financial services, mining and retail trade all posted notable gains. Exports were the major source of growth, rising 7.0%; domestic demand increased a moderate 3.7%.

Strength in manufacturing was concentrated in communications equipment, electronic components

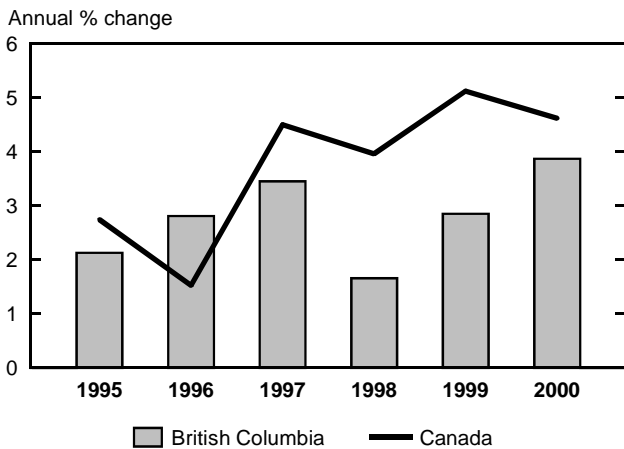
and computers, which were all up sharply. Exports of computers and related equipment increased 24.4%, on top of double-digit gains in 1999. Exports of lumber and wood pulp also grew robustly.

Public utilities in British Columbia benefited from strong demand for electricity south of the border. While the volume of electricity exported grew substantially, its value swelled to more than three times previous levels as prices shot up, boosting profits of government business enterprises by nearly \$1 billion.

Business non-residential construction activity grew 17.6%, boosted by significant investments in oil and gas facilities. This increase was partly offset by a sizeable drop in government construction investment.

Personal income advanced 5.2% in nominal terms, a healthy showing but still shy of the national average. Consumer spending was up 3.5%, but housing investment slipped 1.2%, the third consecutive annual decline.

**British Columbia's GDP at 1997 prices**



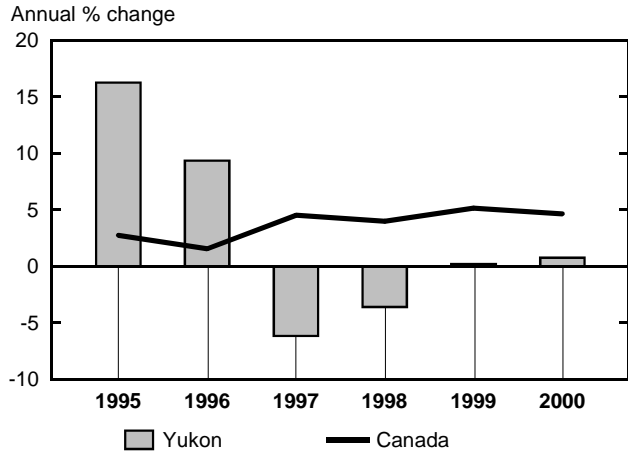
**Slow growth in the Yukon**

GDP rose 0.7% in the Yukon, after edging up 0.2% in 1999. These modest annual increases follow substantial declines in the previous two years, since the Faro lead-zinc mine closed in 1997 and related operations were subsequently scaled back. In 2000, production in the mining industry was reduced 9.2%, as low world prices resulted in the closure of two gold mines.

Government expenditure provided a lift to the Yukon economy, as spending on health, education and administration posted gains. Increased construction investment on schools and health care facilities was also a source of strength. Residential construction

jumped 12.5% following three consecutive annual declines.

**Yukon's GDP at 1997 prices**



**Diamond mine construction boosts growth in Northwest Territories**

The Northwest Territories' economy grew at an outstanding rate of 8.8%, the highest growth in the country. Several industries had a good year. The investment in a new diamond mine led to a near doubling of business investment in non-residential construction activity. Although gold prices continued to be weak, production climbed, following two years of decline.

A sharp rise in crude oil prices led to 36% growth in the value of exports despite a 14% decline in volume terms. Diamond production edged up, on top of 1999's impressive jump.

Government construction investment dropped after major projects were completed.

Corporation profits soared 58.1%, reflecting price increases in the oil sector. Labour income also jumped 11.5% in nominal terms.

**A good year for Nunavut**

Nunavut posted strong growth of 4.5% in 2000. Mining, which is responsible for more than half of the territory's growth, rose 10.1%. The re-opening of a gold mine after repairs and upgrades more than offset the weakness of lead-zinc mines.

With almost one-third of the territorial economy driven by the public sector, the increased construction investment by all levels of government boosted GDP growth. Government investment in non-residential

construction more than doubled with the completion of the Nunavut legislature building and the construction of elementary and secondary schools. While government investment in construction jumped, business investment in both residential and non-residential construction fell sharply.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 3790025, 3840001-3840013 and 3840036.**

*Provincial economic accounts—annual estimates, tables and analytical document, 2000* (13-213-PPB, \$50; 13-213-XDB, \$80) is now available. To purchase

this product, contact the client services officer (613-951-3810; [iead-info-dcrd@statcan.ca](mailto:iead-info-dcrd@statcan.ca)), Income and Expenditure Accounts Division.

To purchase data on provincial gross domestic product by industry at basic prices, contact Bruce Cooke (613-951-9061; [cookeb@statcan.ca](mailto:cookeb@statcan.ca)) Industry Measures and Analysis Division.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Andrée Desaulniers (613-951-9149), or Bruce Cooke (613-951-9061), System of National Accounts Branch.

### GDP at market prices, 1997 prices

	2000	1997	1998	1999	2000
	\$ millions				
<b>Canada</b>	<b>1,011,858</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.6</b>
Newfoundland	12,835	1.1	7.8	6.7	5.6
Prince Edward Island	3,170	-0.3	5.6	3.8	3.0
Nova Scotia	22,815	3.3	3.4	5.7	2.3
New Brunswick	18,606	0.9	3.5	4.6	1.8
Quebec <sup>1</sup>	214,978	3.5	3.4	5.2	4.3
Ontario	426,625	4.9	4.8	7.4	5.3
Manitoba	32,842	4.2	4.3	2.7	2.8
Saskatchewan	31,441	5.5	2.9	1.2	3.2
Alberta	120,466	7.5	4.5	1.9	5.6
British Columbia	124,464	3.4	1.7	2.8	3.9
Yukon	1,079	-6.2	-3.6	0.2	0.7
Northwest Territories	2,255	..	..	..	8.8
Nunavut	907	..	..	..	4.5

.. Figures not available.

<sup>1</sup> A correction has been applied to GDP for Quebec due to an error in government current expenditures on goods and services for 1999 and 2000. This error has been corrected for the provincial account, and will be reflected at the national level in May 2002.

### GDP at basic prices, 1997 prices

	2000	1997	1998	1999	2000
	\$ millions				
<b>Canada</b>	<b>929,556</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.5</b>
Newfoundland	11,343	..	7.1	6.5	5.7
Prince Edward Island	2,825	..	4.7	3.6	3.2
Nova Scotia	20,311	..	2.8	5.4	2.0
New Brunswick	16,939	..	4.2	4.3	2.1
Quebec	198,263	..	3.6	4.8	4.2
Ontario	389,160	..	4.8	6.8	5.0
Manitoba	29,953	..	4.0	2.3	2.5
Saskatchewan	28,947	..	2.6	1.5	3.3
Alberta	114,512	..	4.0	2.1	5.8
British Columbia	113,058	..	1.3	2.9	3.7
Yukon	1,033	..	-2.3	0.2	0.6
Northwest Territories	2,104	..	..	..	8.3
Nunavut	817	..	..	..	3.9

.. Figures not available.



**Personal expenditure on consumer goods and services, 1997 prices**

	2000	1997	1998	1999	2000
	\$ millions				
<b>Canada</b>	<b>567,058</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.7</b>
Newfoundland	8,104	3.0	2.9	3.1	2.9
Prince Edward Island	2,176	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.6
Nova Scotia	15,786	3.3	3.2	3.5	2.8
New Brunswick	12,090	2.6	3.3	3.5	2.5
Quebec	125,909	4.0	2.9	3.2	2.9
Ontario	225,586	4.7	3.7	4.1	4.1
Manitoba	19,880	3.9	1.3	2.4	2.6
Saskatchewan	17,219	3.9	1.6	1.9	2.9
Alberta	59,959	7.4	4.0	3.7	5.1
British Columbia	78,335	3.6	1.6	2.5	3.5
Yukon	630	1.7	1.5	2.5	2.9
Northwest Territories	887	..	..	..	3.0
Nunavut	356	..	..	..	4.1

.. Figures not available.

**Final domestic demand, 1997 prices**

	2000	1997	1998	1999	2000
	\$ millions				
<b>Canada</b>	<b>959,704</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.3</b>
Newfoundland	15,121	4.0	2.8	8.0	0.7
Prince Edward Island	3,727	-1.2	3.4	5.3	3.7
Nova Scotia	27,553	5.2	3.1	7.2	-0.4
New Brunswick	21,248	1.4	5.3	7.7	1.7
Quebec <sup>1</sup>	208,219	3.0	2.9	4.1	3.4
Ontario	373,886	5.7	3.2	5.4	4.9
Manitoba	33,088	4.5	1.1	3.9	2.5
Saskatchewan	30,404	9.2	-1.7	2.3	1.3
Alberta	115,331	11.9	5.6	2.1	8.4
British Columbia	126,916	4.2	-0.2	3.1	3.7
Yukon	1,484	1.4	0.1	5.3	4.4
Northwest Territories	2,578	..	..	..	11.0
Nunavut	1,209	..	..	..	3.2

.. Figures not available.

<sup>1</sup> A correction has been applied to final domestic demand for Quebec due to an error in government current expenditures on goods and services for 1999 and 2000. This error has been corrected for the provincial account, and will be reflected at the national level in May 2002.



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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Stocks of frozen and chilled meat products

October 2001

Total frozen and chilled red meat in cold storage at the opening of the first business day of October amounted to 65 590 metric tonnes, compared with 62 628 tonnes in September and 54 250 tonnes in October 2000.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 30005 and 30006.**

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

For general information, call 1-800-216-2299. For information on the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Barbara McLaughlin (902-893-7251; [barbara.mclaughlin@statcan.ca](mailto:barbara.mclaughlin@statcan.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

### Population estimates by age and sex

July 1, 2001

The preliminary postcensal estimates by age and sex at July 1, 2001 for Canada, the provinces and territories, the updated postcensal estimates at July 1, 2000 and 1999, as well as the final postcensal estimates for July 1, 1998 are now available. The corresponding components of population growth for the years ending June 30, 1998 to 2001, are also available.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 510001, 510002, 510011, 510012 and 510013.**

These estimates will appear soon in *Annual demographic statistics, 2001* (91-213-XIB, \$56; 91-213-XPB, \$125). See *How to order products*.

These estimates may be obtained by contacting Lise Champagne (613-951-2320; fax: 613-951-2307; [lise.champagne@statcan.ca](mailto:lise.champagne@statcan.ca)), Demography Division or your nearest Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre. For more information, or to enquire about concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Daniel Larrivée (613-951-0694; fax: 613-951-2307; [daniel.larrivee@statcan.ca](mailto:daniel.larrivee@statcan.ca)), Demography Division. ■

### Monthly railway carloadings

May 2001

Data on monthly carloadings are now available for May.

The freight loaded by railways in Canada in May totalled 21.4 million metric tonnes (excluding intermodal traffic), down 4.0% from May 2000. The intermodal tonnage, made up of containers on flatcars and trailers on flatcars, was 3.4 million tonnes, up 5.9% from May 2000.

**Available on CANSIM: table 4040002.**

The May issue of *Railway carloadings monthly*, Vol. 78, no. 5 (52-001-XIE, \$8/\$77) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jean-Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0009; [larocque@statcan.ca](mailto:larocque@statcan.ca)), Transportation Division. ■

## NEW PRODUCTS

**Provincial economic accounts, annual estimates—tables and analytical document, 2000**  
 Catalogue number 13-213-PPB (\$50).

**Provincial economic accounts, annual estimates, 2000**  
 Catalogue number 13-213-XDB (\$80).

**Stocks of frozen meat products, October 2001**  
 Catalogue number 23-009-XIE  
 (free).

**Railway carloadings monthly, Vol. 78, no. 5, May 2001**  
 Catalogue number 52-001-XIE (\$8/\$77).

**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:**

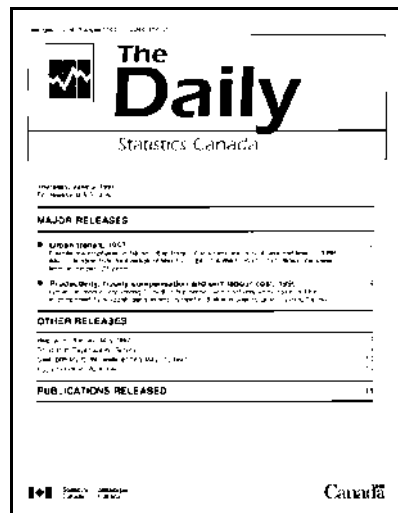
Please refer to the • Title • Catalogue number • Volume number • Issue number • Your VISA or MasterCard number.

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