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MAJOR RELEASES

 Canada's international transactions in securities, September 2001 2 Foreign holdings of Canadian securities declined \$7.2 billion in September largely due to the retirement of federal government bonds. For their part, Canadian investors sharply increased their holdings of foreign securities by \$4.2 billion.
 Retail trade, September 2001 5 Retail sales fell 1.7% in September, the largest monthly decline in more than three years.

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MAJOR RELEASES

Canada's international transactions in securities

September 2001

Foreign holdings of Canadian securities fell \$7.2 billion in September, largely due to the retirement of bonds issued by the federal government. This was the reverse of a similar foreign investment in August.

For their part, Canadian investors sharply increased their holdings of foreign securities by \$4.2 billion, evenly split between stocks and bonds.

Reduced foreign holding of Canadian bonds offsets sizeable investment in August

After making their largest monthly investment in Canadian bonds since September 1993 in August (\$7.8 billion), foreign investors followed up by reducing their holdings by \$5.5 billion in September. The reduced foreign holding was wholly attributable to Government of Canada bonds; retirements of foreign-held Canadian bonds rose to a record \$4.9 billion in September, coupled with a \$1-billion foreign divestment in secondary market issues. Corporations were less active in raising capital in foreign markets in September, although foreign investment in this sector has been unprecedented over the first nine months of 2001 (\$26.5 billion). By region, American and British investors collectively accounted for most of the reduced foreign holding in September, just as they were the major contributors behind August's investment. Japanese investors were buyers of Canadian bonds for the second month in a row, acquiring a total of \$0.9 billion worth over the two months.

In September, foreign investors reduced their holdings of Canadian money market paper by a further \$1.4 billion, a fourth consecutive month of reductions for a total of \$5.6 billion. Since the beginning of 2001, foreign investors have shaved \$9.2 billion from their holdings of money market paper, made up of \$5.9 billion worth of federal treasury bills, \$1.9 billion worth of corporate paper, and \$1.4 billion worth of other government paper. After climbing to just over \$51 billion at the end of March 1996, total foreign holdings of Canadian money market paper has steadily declined in recent years to just \$20.2 billion in September 2001, the lowest level since 1988. At its peak in 1996, federal treasury bills accounted for some two-thirds

Related market information

Interest rates

In September, a three-quarter-percentage-point drop in Canadian short-term rates versus a full one-percentage-point drop in comparable U.S. rates pushed up the differential to 71 basis points from 47 in August, continuing to favour investment in Canada.

Marginal increases in both Canadian and U.S. long-term rates caused the differential to rise slightly to 36 basis points in September, again favouring investment in Canada.

Stock prices

Canadian stock prices (measured by the TSE 300 Composite Index) fell a further 7.6% in September, a new low for 2001 that brought to 23.5% the decline so far this year. The index has lost 39.2% from its record high closing of August 2000, returning to a level not seen since May 1999. U.S. stock prices (measured by the Standard & Poor's Index) fell 8.2% in September, bringing to 31.4% the decline from the August 2000 record high, a level not seen since September 1998.

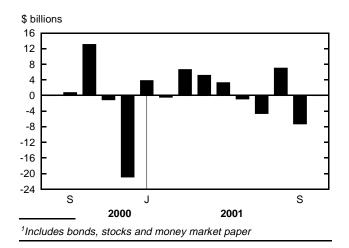
Canadian dollar

The Canadian dollar fell for a third consecutive month in September, establishing a new record low closing against the U.S. dollar. The dollar, at U.S.63.35, has lost two and three-quarter cents in the past three months.

of the total foreign holdings; by September 2001, they made up just 30.4% of the total. In September, a three-quarter-percentage-point drop in Canadian short-term rates versus a full one-percentage-point drop in comparable U.S. rates pushed up the differential to 71 basis points from 47 in August, continuing to favour investment in Canada.

Foreign investment in Canadian stocks has been virtually non-existent in the past two months; a small \$0.4 billion divestment in September followed a similarly small investment in August. So far in 2001, the foreign investment of \$3.7 billion is off considerably from the \$43.3 billion invested over the same period of 2000. Total trading activity in Canadian stocks by foreign investors was \$35.2 billion in September, down 36.0% from this year's high of \$55.0 billion in March. In September, Canadian stock prices (measured by the TSE 300 Composite Index) fell a further 7.6%, a new low for 2001 that brings to 23.5% the decline so far this year.

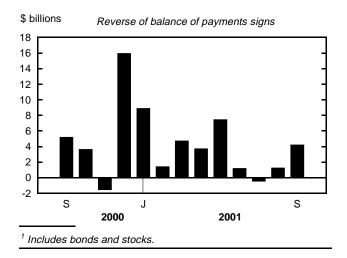




Canadian investment in foreign securities jumped sharply

investment securities Canadian in foreign jumped to \$4.2 billion in September, as residents bought both stocks and bonds. The \$2.2-billion investment in foreign stocks in September brought to \$30.0 billion the investment in the first nine months of 2001. In August and September, the foreign equity investment has gone almost 90% into U.S. equities, whereas in the first seven months of the year the investment was evenly split between U.S. and overseas equities. Canadian investment in foreign bonds totalled \$2.0 billion in September, but just \$2.2 billion in the first nine months; investment over the same period in 2000 was \$6.3 billion.

Canadian investment in foreign securities¹



Available on CANSIM: tables 3760018-3760029 and 3760042.

The September 2001 issue of *Canada's international transactions in securities* (67-002-XIB, \$14/\$132; 67-002-XPB, \$18/\$176) will be available in December. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, please contact Donald Granger (613-951-1864), Balance of Payments Division.

Canada's international transactions in securities

	June	July	August	September	January	January
	2001	2001	2001	2001	to	to
					September	September
					2000	. 2001
				\$ millions		
Foreign investment in Canadian securities	-848	-4,564	6,948	-7,217	28,492	12,723
Bonds (net)	-3,701	291	7,826	-5,479	-13,509	18,173
Outstanding	223	-1,036	3,190	-742	-313	7,458
New issues	4,741	2,920	5,930	1,593	18,650	46,256
Retirements	-7,452	-1,763	-1,885	-6,269	-32,022	-36,478
Change in interest payable ¹	-1,213	170	591	-61	175	937
Money market paper (net)	-1,682	-1,512	-1,088	-1,357	-1,282	-9,175
Government of Canada	-657	-955	-1,112	-1,037	-1,431	-5,857
Other	-1,024	-557	24	-320	149	-3,318
Stocks (net)	4,534	-3,342	209	-381	43,283	3,725
Outstanding	590	-469	70	-177	26.495	1,537
Other transactions	3,944	-2,873	139	-204	16,788	2,188
Canadian investment in foreign securities	-1,162	411	-1,224	-4,166	-44,667	-32,186
Bonds (net)	823	468	141	-1,968	-6,339	-2,217
Stocks (net)	-1,985	-57	-1,364	-2,199	-38,327	-29,970

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Interest accrued less interest paid. **te:** A minus sign (-) indicates an outflow of money from Canada, i.e., a withdrawal of foreign investment from Canada or an increase in Canadian investment Note: abroad.

Retail trade

September 2001

Retail sales dropped 1.7% in September to \$23.7 billion, after remaining unchanged in August. This was the largest monthly decline in sales since January 1998, when an ice storm disrupted retail sales in parts of Central and Eastern Canada. In the United States, retail sales dropped 2.2% in September.

September's decline in Canada is partly related to the events of September 11, but also to weaker sales seen since April. Retail sales remained essentially unchanged between April and August. Previously, retailers saw a period of strong sales increases that began in December 2000. In 2000, retail sales advanced for most of the first half of the year, but flattened out in the second half.

In constant dollars, retail sales tumbled 2.3% in September, after remaining flat in the previous four months.



Spending cutbacks pushed down sales in all retail sectors in September, except for a modest increase in food stores (+0.2%). Retailers in the general merchandise (-3.2%), other retail (-2.8%), automotive (-2.3%) and clothing (-1.9%) sectors posted the largest sales declines. The other retail category includes stores such as liquor, sporting goods, hardware and bookstores. Decreases were less dramatic in furniture stores and drug stores, where sales declines were limited to 0.6%.

First quarterly sales decline in three years

Quarterly retail sales fell for the first time in three years. Sales were down 0.9% in the third quarter compared with the second. Retailers in the automotive

Note to readers

Estimates from the Monthly Retail Trade Survey are classified according to the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification. Retail sales estimates for October will be released on December 20.

(-2.8%) and clothing (-2.8%) sectors posted the largest declines in the third quarter, but those in the furniture (+1.6%) and food (+1.5%) sectors saw the strongest gains.

The increase in the furniture sector followed a 0.8% decline in the second quarter, when it was the only retail sector with dropping sales. The second-quarter retreat also ended five years of consecutive quarterly sales advances in the furniture sector.

General merchandise stores weaken

For a second consecutive month, consumers reduced their purchases in general merchandise stores. Sales by general merchandise stores were down 3.2% in September and 2.3% in August. Within this sector, declines were seen in both department stores (-4.4%) and other general merchandise stores (-1.4%) in September. Decreases in September and August cancelled about half the progress made in department store sales since the fall of 2000. After four years of continued growth, sales in other general merchandise stores have been generally declining since the start of 2001.

Auto sector decelerates

Sales in the automotive sector slowed 2.3% in September, continuing the period of declining sales that began in the spring of 2001. Within this sector, automotive parts, accessories and service stores (-5.4%) posted the largest drop in September. This followed a 2.4% increase in August. Sales by these retailers have generally been moving downward since May, after advancing rapidly since the summer of 2000.

The slower sales that motor and recreational vehicle dealers have seen since the spring continued in September with a 3.3% decline. The various incentives that contributed to strong sales gains previously have failed to maintain an upward movement in recent months.

Gasoline service station sales continued to be driven by price volatility—September saw a 7.6% price increase at the pump. The value of retail sales by gasoline service stations jumped 3.7% in September, a second consecutive monthly gain due to higher prices. Despite the sales increases in September and August, gasoline service stations have generally reported diminishing sales since the start of 2001.

Consumers cool on clothing purchases

Retailers in the clothing sector reported their fourth monthly sales decline in five months. Sales fell 1.9% in September, following a 2.1% gain in August. Consumer spending advanced at a rapid pace throughout 2000 and up to April 2001. Women's clothing stores and other clothing stores were behind the strong sales gains observed in this period, but men's clothing stores and shoes stores continued their general pattern of declining sales. Since April, all store types in the clothing sector lost ground, with sales down 6.2% overall.

Retailers in Central Canada among the hardest hit

Retailers in Quebec and Ontario were among the hardest hit in both September and in the third quarter of 2001.

Retail sales were down in seven provinces in September, led by significant declines in Prince Edward Island (-3.5%), Ontario (-2.4%), Quebec (-2.0%) and Alberta (-2.0%). On a quarterly basis, the largest declines were reported by retailers in Quebec (-2.4%), New Brunswick (-2.1%) and Ontario (-1.3%).

The diminishing sales that Quebec retailers have seen since April 2001 have reversed the upward movement that lasted more than two years. Retailers in Ontario have been reporting weaker sales since the summer of 2000, after four years of strong monthly sales gains.

Related indicators for October

Total employment remained unchanged in October. The labour market has been experiencing uncertainty since the spring of 2001. The Bank Rate was reduced by 75 basis points in October to 3.0%, the eighth decline in 2001. This decline pushed the Bank Rate to its lowest level in 40 years. The number of new motor vehicles sold in October partly recovered from the 5.3% decline reported in September.

Available on CANSIM: tables 800001-800005.

The September 2001 issue of *Retail trade* (63-005-XIB, \$16/\$155) will be available soon. See *How* to order products.

To order data, or for general information, contact the Client Services Unit (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; *retailinfo@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Paul Gratton (613-951-3541; *paul.gratton@statcan.ca*), Distributive Trades Division.

Retail sales

	September 2000	June 2001 ^r	July 2001 ^r	August 2001 ^r	September 2001 ^p	August to	September 2000
						September 2001	to September 2001
				Seasonally a	djusted		
		:	\$ millions			% char	ige
Food	5,124	5,336	5,366	5,401	5,411	0.2	5.6
Supermarkets and grocery stores All other food stores	4,746 378	4,937 399	4,960 406	4,995 405	5,008 403	0.2 -0.5	5.5 6.6
Drug and patent medicine stores	1,139	1,204	1,209	1,213	1,205	-0.6	5.9
Clothing	1,315	1,309	1,291	1,317	1,292	-1.9	-1.7
Shoe stores	149	145	145	146	146	-0.4	-2.3
Men's clothing stores	129	122	120	118	114	-3.3	-11.5
Women's clothing stores	400	396	381	400	388	-3.0	-3.1
Other clothing stores	636	645	644	653	644	-1.4	1.2
Furniture	1,289	1,342	1,342	1,353	1,345	-0.6	4.3
Household furniture and appliance stores	1,041	1,080	1,081	1,086	1,078	-0.7	3.6
Household furnishings stores	248	262	261	267	267	0.0	7.6
Automotive	9,486	9,728	9,559	9,576	9,358	-2.3	-1.4
Motor and recreational vehicle dealers	6,274	6,375	6,378	6,328	6,118	-3.3	-2.5
Gasoline service stations	1,914	1,980	1,815	1,849	1,918	3.7	0.2
Automotive parts, accessories and services	1,298	1,373	1,365	1,398	1,322	-5.4	1.9
General merchandise stores	2,601	2,729	2,770	2,707	2,622	-3.2	0.8
Retail stores not elsewhere classified	2,504	2,566	2,600	2,582	2,510	-2.8	0.2
Other semi-durable goods stores	729	736	755	724	706	-2.6	-3.1
Other durable goods stores	630	639	637	638	619	-3.1	-1.7
All other retail stores not elsewhere classified	1,146	1,190	1,207	1,219	1,185	-2.8	3.5
Total, retail sales	23,458	24,213	24,136	24,148	23,742	-1.7	1.2
Total excluding motor and recreational vehicle							
dealers	17,184	17,838	17,759	17,819	17,625	-1.1	2.6
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland	380	414	425	421	413	-1.7	8.8
Prince Edward Island	103	108	108	108	104	-3.5	0.5
Nova Scotia	713	731	733	724	726	0.3	1.9
New Brunswick	583	584	577	581	576	-0.9	-1.1
Quebec	5,356	5,568	5,504	5,521	5,408	-2.0	1.0
Ontario Manitoba	9,054 786	9,110 823	9,101 843	9,118 827	8,896 829	-2.4 0.3	-1.7 5.5
Saskatchewan	683	693	693	689	695	0.3	1.6
Alberta	2,704	2,903	2,895	2,903	2,846	-2.0	5.3
British Columbia	3,018	3,198	3,179	3,176	3,166	-0.3	4.9
Yukon	28	30	29	29	30	3.5	6.3
Northwest Territories	33	36	35	36	36	-0.5	8.1
Nunavut	16	17	17	16	16	4.1	2.5

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Revised figures. Preliminary figures. р

Retail sales

	September	August	September	September
	2000	2001 ^r	2001 ^p	2000
				to September
				September 2001
		Unadjust	ed	2001
		\$ millions		% change
Food	5.272	5.671	5.390	2.2
Supermarkets and grocery stores	5,272 4,896	5,257	4,993	2.0
All other food stores	376	415	397	5.6
Drug and patent medicine stores	1,112	1,222	1,148	3.3
• .	,			
Clothing	1,418	1,373	1,343 157	-5.3 -5.3
Shoe stores Mon's clothing stores	166 126	156 105	157	-5.3 -15.6
Men's clothing stores	433	389	403	-15.6 -7.0
Women's clothing stores Other clothing stores	433 692	723	403 677	-7.0 -2.3
Other clothing stores	032	125	011	-2.5
Furniture	1,349	1,397	1,364	1.1
Household furniture and appliance stores	1,095	1,115	1,099	0.4
Household furnishings stores	254	282	265	4.3
utomotive	9,631	10,248	9,114	-5.4
Motor and recreational vehicle dealers	6,422	6,788	5,955	-7.3
Gasoline service stations	1,951	2,011	1,914	-1.9
Automotive parts, accessories and services	1,259	1,449	1,246	-1.0
General merchandise stores	2,509	2,666	2,471	-1.5
Retail stores not elsewhere classified	2,531	2,831	2,450	-3.2
Other semi-durable goods stores	746	780	696	-6.6
Other durable goods stores	609	695	580	-4.7
All other retail stores not elsewhere classified	1,176	1,355	1,174	-0.2
otal, retail sales	23,821	25,408	23,281	-2.3
otal excluding motor and recreational vehicle				
dealers	17,400	18,621	17,327	-0.4
Provinces and territories				
Newfoundland	384	464	399	4.0
Prince Edward Island	106	127	103	-2.5
Nova Scotia	715	774	694	-3.0
New Brunswick	591	634	561	-5.0
Quebec	5,407	5,869	5,297	-2.0
Ontario	9,256	9,469	8,766	-5.3
Manitoba	804	867	812	1.0
Saskatchewan	690 2.751	726 3.043	678 2.800	-1.7
Alberta British Columbia	2,751 3,042	3,043 3,347	2,800 3,092	1.8 1.6
Yukon	3,042	3,347 34	3,092	1.6
Northwest Territories	29	34 37	30	2.3 5.7
Nunavut	15	16	16	0.7

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Revised figures. Preliminary figures. р

OTHER RELEASES

Employment Insurance

September 2001 (preliminary)

The estimated number (adjusted for seasonality) of Canadians who received regular Employment Insurance benefits in September was little changed (-0.7%) at 531,230, following a drop in August and an almost steady rise in the previous nine months. Declines in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, New Brunswick and Quebec were partly offset by increases in Ontario and Newfoundland.

Number of beneficiaries receiving regular benefits

	Sept.	Aug.	Sept.
	2001 ^p	to	2000
		Sept.	to
		2001	Sept.
			2001
	Seasona	lly adjusted	
—		% chang	e
Canada	531,230	-0.7	12.5
Newfoundland	35,350	6.1	3.0
Prince Edward Island	7,620	-0.3	-6.5
Nova Scotia	29,680	-1.0	1.0
New Brunswick	37,710	-5.9	15.9
Quebec	177,900	-4.4	8.3
Ontario	130,540	6.3	34.3
Manitoba	13,110	-8.2	4.4
Saskatchewan	10,740	-10.8	-6.9
Alberta	24,720	-1.6	-6.2
British Columbia	60,530	0.8	13.7
Yukon	820	1.2	-10.9
Northwest Territories			
and Nunavut	980	2.1	-25.2
	Unadjusted	for seasonality	
Northwest Territories	500	-2.0	-25.4
Nunavut	270	-15.6	-27.0

Preliminary figures.

Regular benefit payments rose 6.7% from August to \$740.3 million, partly due to an increase in the number of weeks paid. The number of initial and renewal claims received was up 5.5% to 243,170.

Employment Insurance statistics

	Sept.	Aug.	Sept.	Aug.	Sept
	2000	2001	2001	to	2000
				Sept.	to
				2001	Sept
		Casaa	nally adjuste	- d	2001
		Seasor	ally aujust	eu	
				% cha	ange
Regular beneficiaries Regular benefits paid	472,230	535,030 ^p	531,230 ^p	-0.7	12.5
(\$ millions)	588.3	693.6	740.3	6.7	25.8
Claims received ('000)	196.3	230.6	243.2	5.5	23.9
		Unadjuste	d for seaso	nality	
				% cha	ange
All beneficiaries ('000) Regular beneficiaries	495.8	687.6 ^p	601.6 ^p	-12.5	21.3
('000)	338.2	485.4 ^p	378.9 ^p	-21.9	12.0
Claims received ('000)	168.1	170.2	207.8	22.1	23.6
Payments (\$ millions)	665.9	980.0	1,036.5	5.8	55.7
	Yea	ar-to-date (Ja	anuary to S	eptember)
					2000
			2000	2001	to 2001
		-			% change
Claims received ('000)			1,765.8	1,997.5	13.1
Payments (\$ millions)			8,609.5	9,640.5	12.0

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

Note: Employment Insurance Statistics Program data are produced from an administrative data source and may from time to time be affected by changes to the Employment Insurance Act. For example, in May 2001 the act was amended to eliminate the intensity rule, to adjust the benefit repayment provision and the re-entrant rules for parents returning to the workforce, and to align the El fishing regulations with the enhanced maternity and parental benefits. These modifications may have affected the level of benefits in June. Please note however, that retroactive payments made in June due to those changes were removed.

The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who were in receipt of EI benefits for the week containing the fifteenth day of the month. The regular benefit payments series measures the total of all monies individuals received for the entire month. These different reference periods must be taken into consideration when comparisons are done between the series.

The act allows each province or administrative region of Human Resources Development Canada

to have certain autonomy in the application of administrative procedures regarding renewal claims. Data users must take into consideration that month-to-month changes in levels may be affected by different administrative procedures regarding renewal claims between one province or region and another.

Available on CANSIM: tables 2760001-2760006, 2760009, 2760012, 2760015 and 2760016.

For more information, or to enquire about concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Gilles Groleau or Jean Leduc (1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-2869; *labour@statcan.ca*), Labour Statistics Division.

Monthly Survey of Large Retailers

September 2001

Sales by the group of large retailers totalled \$6.5 billion in September, up 1.1% from September 2000. It was the weakest sales rise for the group since changes in year-over-year sales were first available for this survey in January 1998. For the eight months prior to September, the cumulative year-over-year growth for the group of large retailers was 6.2%. September's results reflect an economic slowdown and the events of September 11.

Sales by commodity for the group of large retailers

	Aug.	Sept.	Sept.	Sept.
	2001 ^r	2000	2001 ^p	2000
				to
				Sept.
				2001
		Unadju	sted	
-	9	5 millions		% change
Commodities				
Food and beverages Clothing, footwear and	2,241	2,178	2,182	0.2
accessories Home furnishings and	1,339	1,343	1,290	-3.9
electronics Health and personal	990	950	965	1.6
care products	559	501	543	8.4
Housewares Sporting and leisure	337	306	307	0.3
goods Hardware and lawn and	307	249	263	5.4
garden products All other goods and	249	197	209	6.3
services	816	688	723	5.0
Total	6,839	6,412	6,482	1.1

^r Revised figures.
^p Preliminary figures.

Of the eight major commodity groups, five recorded year-over-year sales increases, two were flat, and sales

of clothing, footwear and accessories declined. Once again, the largest gain in September was in health and personal care products. (All data in this release are unadjusted for seasonality and all percentage changes are year-over-year.)

In the third quarter, sales for the group of large retailers were up 4.2% compared with the third quarter of 2000. This is short of the average 6.4% cumulative growth over the first two quarters of 2001, and reflects September's weak sales.

The hardest-hit commodity group was clothing, footwear and accessories. The majority of its commodity sub-groups were down. Sales of both men's and boy's clothing were the biggest losers, declining 7.6% and 11.1%, respectively, from September 2000.

Home furnishings and electronics sales rose a weak 1.6% over September 2000. This was well off the average gain of 7.5% over the first eight months of 2001. Household appliances fared relatively well in September—sales of major appliances were up 8.0%—perhaps in part due to continued strength in the residential housing market. Of the remaining commodity sub-groups, home electronics sales (-1.1%) was the poorest performer for large retailers.

Personal care products, such as cosmetics and other toiletries (+2.9%), were not up as strongly as in recent months. However, total sales of health and personal care products for the group of large retailers were buoyed by continued strength in drug sales, up 14.4% from September 2000.

Note: The Monthly Survey of Large Retailers provides a breakdown of sales on the basis of commodities at the national level for a group of about 80 large retailers. Sales data for more than 100 commodities are available monthly. The survey includes large retailers, mainly in the food, clothing, home furnishings, electronics, sporting goods and general merchandise sectors. These retailers represent about 37% of total annual retail sales, excluding recreational and motor vehicle dealers.

Available on CANSIM: table 800009.

To order data, or for general information, contact the Client Services Unit (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; *retailinfo@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Elton Cryderman (613-951-0669; *elton.cryderman@statcan.ca*), Distributive Trades Division.

Steel primary forms

Week ending November 17, 2001 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending November 17 totalled 318 097 metric tonnes, up 9.9% from 289 573 tonnes a week earlier and down 0.8% from 320 771 tonnes in the same week of 2000. The year-to-date total at the end of the reference week was 13 244 702 tonnes, a 10.6% decrease compared with 14 823 343 in the same week of 2000.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; *manufact@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods, or data quality of this release, contact Dragos Ifrim (613-951-3527; *dragos.ifrim@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Travel arrangement services 1999

Data for 1999 for the travel arrangement services industry are now available. These data provide

information such as revenue, salaries and wages, profit margin, the percentage distribution of revenue by type of service, expenditures and client base for North American Industry Classification System codes 56151 and 56152.

The travel arrangement industry, which comprises travel agents and tour operator services, grew 6.0% in 1999 to \$6.5 billion. The revenue generated by the travel agents in 1999 fell 2.8% to \$1.7 billion, the result of cuts in the commission rate paid by suppliers of travel services, such as airlines. The tour operators industry grew 10.0% in 1999 to \$4.7 billion.

Available on CANSIM: table 3510003.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Adib Farhat (613-951-6306; *farhadi@statcan.ca*) or Joan Farnworth (613-951-6303) Service Industries Division.

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