

The Daily

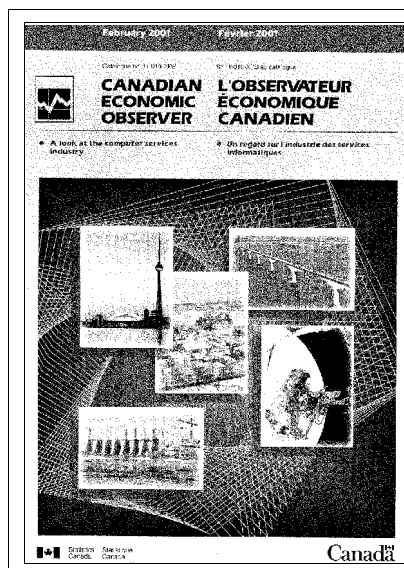
Statistics Canada

Thursday, February 22, 2001
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Retail trade, year 2000 and December 2000** 3
After remaining flat since July, retail sales increased 0.9% in December. In 2000, sales advanced 6.3%, the third largest annual increase in the last 10 years.
- **Canada's international transactions in securities, December 2000** 7
In December, unusually large security transactions mirrored, and completely offset, a large inflow of direct investment to be reported in next week's balance of payments release. Excluding these unusual flows, international transactions in securities were in line with recently observed patterns.
- **Farm cash receipts, 2000** 10
Crop producers saw their receipts fall in 2000 for the third consecutive year, hitting a six-year low. However, livestock farmers saw their receipts rise, driven by higher receipts for hogs and, to a lesser extent, cattle and calves.

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Canadian economic observer February 2001

The February issue of Statistics Canada's flagship publication for economic statistics, *Canadian economic observer*, analyses current economic conditions, summarizes the major economic events that occurred in January and presents a feature article, an updated look at the computer services industry. A separate statistical summary contains a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and the major industrial nations.

The February 2001 issue of *Canadian economic observer* (11-010-XPB, \$23/\$227) is now available. See *How to order products*. For more information, contact Cindy Bloskie (613-951-3634; ceo@statcan.ca), Current Economic Analysis Group.



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A geographical profile of manure production, 1996	14

NEW PRODUCTS

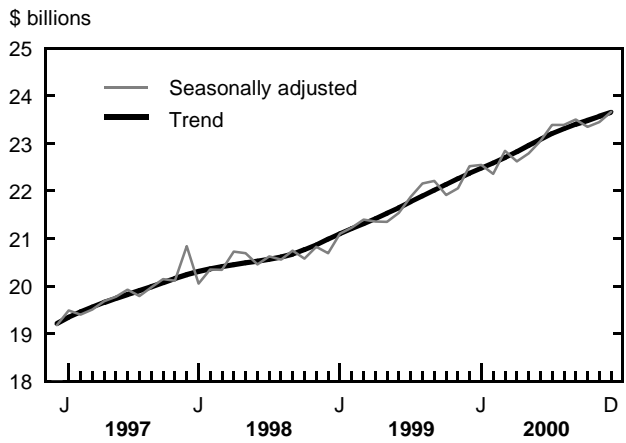
MAJOR RELEASES

Retail trade

Year 2000 (preliminary) and December 2000

Higher spending in the food and general merchandise sectors pushed total retail sales up 0.9% in December to \$23.7 billion. This follows four months of essentially flat retail sales, preceded by increases in the May-to-July period. Retail sales advanced 6.3% in 2000, the third largest annual increase in the last 10 years.

Retail sales advanced in December



the loss of a major department store in the fall of 1999. Sales by department stores increased by only 2.0% in 2000, while sales in other general merchandise stores advanced 7.6%. Retailers classified as other general merchandise stores have enjoyed robust growth since the start of 1997.

Sales by food stores were up 4.0% in 2000, almost twice the 2.1% gain seen in 1999. Food stores have generally been experiencing sales increases since early 1996. Sales advances in drug stores (+2.1%) in 2000 were lower than in 1999 (+3.0%). Sales in drug stores have been increasing since the spring of 2000, after a short period of declines that began in the fall of 1999.

Retail sales by sector

	1999	2000	1999 to 2000 % change
	\$ millions		% change
Furniture	13,654	15,122	10.7
Automotive	102,315	111,176	8.7
Total, all stores	260,691	277,151	6.3
Clothing	14,334	15,116	5.5
Other	28,174	29,594	5.0
General merchandise	29,990	31,306	4.4
Food	58,889	61,217	4.0
Drug	13,335	13,620	2.1

Alberta led the way in 2000

Increases in retail sales above the national average were reported in Alberta, Ontario, Prince Edward Island, Northwest Territories, Newfoundland and Nunavut.

Alberta led all other provinces and territories in 2000, posting its second strongest annual retail sales gains in the last 10 years. Retail sales in Alberta advanced 8.9% in 2000, an annual gain surpassed only in 1997 (+13.2%). Consumer spending was particularly strong in the furniture and automotive sectors, where sales rose more than 12%. All remaining sectors showed annual gains of at least 6%, except for drug stores (+0.7%). Alberta retail sales have been advancing strongly since the spring of 1999, after remaining flat at the start of that year and throughout 1998.

Consumers in Ontario increased spending in stores (+7.2%) in 2000, a rate similar to the previous three years. Furniture stores (+13.4%) and stores in the automotive sector (+9.5%) posted by far the strongest gains. Despite this strength, sales in both the furniture and automotive sectors weakened in the last half of the year.

Prince Edward Island (+7.1%) and Newfoundland (+6.4%) posted strong retail sales increases in 2000. The annual growth rate of retail sales has been above the

national average in the last six years in Prince Edward Island and for the last two years in Newfoundland.

Retail sales in the Northwest Territories (+6.8%) and Nunavut (+6.4%) advanced at a similar rate in 2000. Part of this strength in retail sales could be explained by a strong local economy and population growth. Population gains in 2000 were twice the national average in the Northwest Territories (+1.9%) and three times in Nunavut (+2.8%). Retailers in these territories have enjoyed strong sales gains since the summer of 1998.

In 2000, strong sales in the automotive sector (+10.7%) pushed up total retail sales in British Columbia (+6.2%) at a rate slightly below the national average. Retailers in the automotive sector came back strong in 2000, after essentially unchanged sales in 1999. Overall in 2000, retailers in British Columbia saw their strongest annual sales gain since the 7.0% increase in 1995. Sales in British Columbia have generally been increasing since the fall of 1998 after a period of declines in the rest of that year.

Quebec retailers posted a 4.6% annual sales gain in 2000. Sales in furniture stores (+9.9%) advanced at about the same rate as in other provinces. However, retailers in the automotive sector (+6.3%) saw lower sales increases than their counterparts in most other provinces. Retail sales in Quebec have weakened in recent months, after rising strongly in June and July. Retailers in Quebec experienced a period of volatility at the start of 2000, after enjoying a year and a half of rising sales.

Retail sales by province and territory

	1999	2000	1999 to 2000 % change
	\$ millions		% change
Alberta	29,324	31,923	8.9
Ontario	99,150	106,312	7.2
Prince Edward Island	1,157	1,238	7.1
Northwest Territories	371	396	6.8
Newfoundland	4,223	4,495	6.4
Nunavut	174	185	6.4
Canada	260,691	277,151	6.3
British Columbia	33,672	35,755	6.2
Saskatchewan	7,735	8,110	4.9
Quebec	60,766	63,574	4.6
New Brunswick	6,608	6,910	4.6
Yukon	329	344	4.4
Nova Scotia	8,160	8,506	4.3
Manitoba	9,023	9,404	4.2

Related indicators for January 2001

In January, both total employment and the number of new motor vehicles sold were essentially unchanged from December, and gasoline prices declined for a second consecutive month (-1.6%). The same

month, the Bank Rate was reduced to 5.75% after remaining fixed at 6.0% for the previous eight months. Housing starts bounced back in January with an exceptional 20.1% increase after two months of declines.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2399 and 2400 (main matrices), 2299, 2397, 2398, 2401-2416 and 2418-2420.

The December 2000 issue of *Retail trade* (63-005-XIB, \$16/\$155; 63-005-XPB, \$21/\$206) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

Retail sales estimates for January 2001 will be released on March 21.

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

Retail sales

	December 1999	September 2000 ^r	October 2000 ^r	November 2000 ^r	December 2000 ^p	November to December 2000	December 1999 to December 2000
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions				% change		
Food	5,038	5,153	5,182	5,195	5,322	2.5	5.6
Supermarkets and grocery stores	4,664	4,772	4,801	4,815	4,940	2.6	5.9
All other food stores	374	381	382	379	382	0.7	2.1
Drug and patent medicine stores	1,118	1,146	1,151	1,160	1,151	-0.8	3.0
Clothing	1,207	1,301	1,281	1,282	1,273	-0.7	5.5
Shoe stores	137	136	135	131	136	3.3	-0.7
Men's clothing stores	128	129	125	121	122	0.1	-5.0
Women's clothing stores	380	396	395	389	384	-1.4	0.9
Other clothing stores	562	641	625	640	632	-1.3	12.4
Furniture	1,193	1,289	1,283	1,288	1,289	0.1	8.0
Household furniture and appliance stores	971	1,045	1,036	1,035	1,046	1.1	7.8
Household furnishings stores	222	244	247	253	242	-4.0	9.1
Automotive	9,111	9,522	9,264	9,401	9,438	0.4	3.6
Motor and recreational vehicle dealers	6,108	6,305	5,989	6,086	6,068	-0.3	-0.6
Gasoline service stations	1,691	1,915	1,946	1,988	1,995	0.4	18.0
Automotive parts, accessories and services	1,312	1,302	1,330	1,327	1,375	3.6	4.8
General merchandise stores	2,482	2,588	2,663	2,624	2,688	2.4	8.3
Retail stores not elsewhere classified	2,370	2,502	2,521	2,498	2,502	0.1	5.6
Other semi-durable goods stores	685	737	737	721	721	0.0	5.3
Other durable goods stores	596	630	632	640	640	0.1	7.4
All other retail stores not elsewhere classified	1,089	1,136	1,153	1,137	1,141	0.3	4.7
Total, retail sales	22,518	23,502	23,345	23,447	23,662	0.9	5.1
Total excluding motor and recreational vehicle dealers	16,411	17,196	17,357	17,361	17,594	1.3	7.2
Provinces and territories							
Newfoundland	360	377	376	382	378	-1.1	4.9
Prince Edward Island	102	105	102	104	106	2.2	4.1
Nova Scotia	705	716	704	721	736	2.0	4.4
New Brunswick	571	582	572	585	582	-0.5	1.9
Quebec	5,199	5,384	5,372	5,288	5,401	2.1	3.9
Ontario	8,548	9,061	9,005	9,025	9,070	0.5	6.1
Manitoba	778	788	784	788	790	0.3	1.6
Saskatchewan	674	681	669	678	675	-0.4	0.2
Alberta	2,577	2,708	2,682	2,723	2,734	0.4	6.1
British Columbia	2,928	3,023	3,000	3,076	3,108	1.0	6.1
Yukon	28	28	29	29	30	5.9	6.0
Northwest Territories	33	33	34	34	36	7.6	10.9
Nunavut	14	16	16	16	15	-4.2	5.6

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

Retail sales

	December 1999	November 2000 ^r	December 2000 ^p	December 1999 to December 2000
unadjusted				
	\$ millions			% change
Food	5,550	5,018	5,870	5.8
Supermarkets and grocery stores	5,077	4,654	5,385	6.1
All other food stores	473	364	485	2.6
Drug and patent medicine stores	1,416	1,164	1,423	0.5
Clothing	2,021	1,429	2,116	4.7
Shoe stores	178	144	180	1.2
Men's clothing stores	261	148	245	-6.1
Women's clothing stores	612	421	620	1.3
Other clothing stores	969	716	1,070	10.4
Furniture	1,736	1,419	1,859	7.1
Household furniture and appliance stores	1,454	1,126	1,561	7.3
Household furnishings stores	282	293	298	5.9
Automotive	8,531	9,129	8,504	-0.3
Motor and recreational vehicle dealers	5,371	5,660	5,037	-6.2
Gasoline service stations	1,698	1,974	1,971	16.0
Automotive parts, accessories and services	1,461	1,495	1,496	2.4
General merchandise stores	4,147	3,161	4,426	6.7
Retail stores not elsewhere classified	3,750	2,492	3,897	3.9
Other semi-durable goods stores	1,064	776	1,091	2.5
Other durable goods stores	1,128	626	1,191	5.6
All other retail stores not elsewhere classified	1,559	1,090	1,615	3.6
Total, retail sales	27,151	23,811	28,095	3.5
Total excluding motor and recreational vehicle dealers	21,780	18,151	23,058	5.9
Provinces and territories				
Newfoundland	436	401	447	2.6
Prince Edward Island	121	101	125	3.2
Nova Scotia	858	737	885	3.2
New Brunswick	683	594	687	0.6
Quebec	5,883	5,303	6,008	2.1
Ontario	10,609	9,337	11,018	3.9
Manitoba	963	797	966	0.3
Saskatchewan	820	691	814	-0.7
Alberta	3,168	2,761	3,313	4.6
British Columbia	3,524	3,016	3,739	6.1
Yukon	31	26	33	4.1
Northwest Territories	37	32	42	11.9
Nunavut	17	15	18	6.3

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

Canada's international transactions in securities

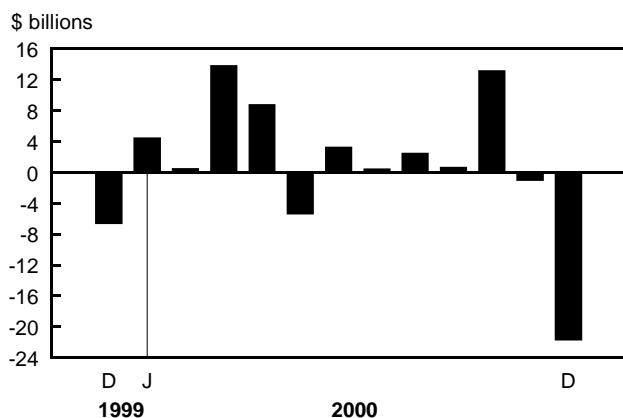
December 2000

The acquisition of a major Canadian company by a foreign investor resulted in unusually large securities transactions in December. A large inflow of direct investment, which will be reflected in the balance of payments data to be released February 28, resulted in offsetting portfolio flows. First, Canadians received large numbers of foreign shares in exchange for their holdings in the acquired company and secondly, foreign portfolio holdings in the same company were purchased by the foreign direct investor. The capital transactions associated with this acquisition are fully offsetting in the balance of payments.

The results of these and other portfolio transactions in December were that foreign holdings of Canadian securities were reduced by \$21.6 billion and Canadian holdings for foreign securities were increased by \$16.1 billion.

Excluding large direct investment-related transactions, Canadians continued to invest in foreign stocks. Foreign investors returned to the Canadian stock market after two months of divestment, and foreign holdings of Canadian bonds declined further.

Foreign investment in Canadian securities¹



¹ Includes bonds, stocks and money market paper.

Foreign portfolio holdings of Canadian equities declined sharply

In December, foreign residents reduced their holdings of Canadian equities by \$18.8 billion. This decline resulted from the acquisition of a major Canadian company, as its foreign portfolio shareholdings were bought by a foreign direct investor. Aside from this,

Related market information

Interest rates

In December, a 52-basis-point decline in U.S. short-term interest rates compared with a 13-basis-point decline in Canadian rates reduced the interest rate differential to its lowest level since May 2000. The differential, which continues to favour investment in the United States, amounted to only 17 basis points at year-end. A decline in U.S. long-term rates of 21 basis points combined with a small increase in Canadian long term rates provided the first differential for long-term instruments (+10 basis points) in favour of investment in Canada since November of 1999.

Stock prices

After declining by a total of 21.6% in the prior three months, Canadian stock prices (measured by the TSE 300 Composite Index) rebounded somewhat with a gain of 1.3% in December. Canadian share prices increased by one-third over the first eight months of 2000, but gave back a large portion over the latter part of the year; overall, share prices held on to a 6.2% gain for 2000. U.S. stock prices (Standard & Poor's 500 Index) registered a smaller gain in December halting a three-month slide of 13.4%. For the year, U.S. stock prices did not fare as well, posting a 10.1% decline.

Canadian dollar

In December, the Canadian dollar closed higher against the U.S. dollar for only the third time in the year 2000. December's gain of a cent and a half left the Canadian dollar down just over two and a half cents from the previous year-end.

foreign investors returned to the secondary market, purchasing existing shares for the first time since September. After declining by a total of 21.6% in the prior three months, Canadian stock prices rebounded somewhat with a gain of 1.3% in December.

Foreign investors acquired a record \$35.2 billion of Canadian equities in 2000. While share exchanges associated with direct investment acquisitions — foreign and Canadian — provided large portfolio transactions during the year, these exchanges provided less than 10% of the net increase in foreign holdings of Canadian shares.

Foreign holdings of Canadian bonds declined further

Foreign holdings of Canadian bonds declined in December, the tenth monthly drop in 2000, as retirements of foreign-held Canadian bonds continued to outstrip new Canadian issues sold in foreign markets. December's \$5.4 billion of retirements brought the total for the year to \$41.5 billion, more than double the \$20.1 billion of new Canadian bonds sold in foreign markets for the year. Foreign acquisitions of \$2.0 billion of mainly federal bonds in the secondary market

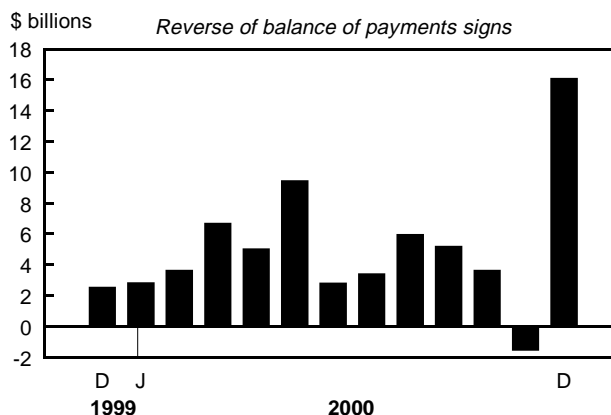
in December brought the investment in this market to \$3.9 billion for the year, about half that for 1999. Total foreign holdings of Canadian bonds declined by \$17.5 billion in 2000; this was the first decline in over four decades and was widespread geographically, coming from Asian countries (-\$7.9 billion), the United States (-\$5.1 billion) and Europe (-\$4.5 billion).

In December, foreign holdings of Canadian money market paper rose by \$1.5 billion, continuing the seesaw pattern of foreign investment in Canadian money market paper throughout 2000. The net result was a small foreign investment of \$1.1 billion for the year, contrasting with a \$13.4 billion divestment in 1999.

Massive increase in Canadian holdings of foreign stocks

Canadians increased their holdings of foreign stocks by a massive \$16.2 billion in December; the lion's share resulted from the receipt of foreign shares in exchange for those of a Canadian company involved in a foreign direct investment takeover. In 2000, Canadians increased their holdings of foreign stocks by \$58.9 billion, with \$25.4 billion coming from share exchanges when foreign direct investors acquired Canadian firms. Over the year, Canadians acquired a record \$33.5 billion worth of existing foreign stocks, two-thirds of which were U.S. equities. Higher foreign content limits for tax-sheltered Canadian investment funds contributed to the strong demand for foreign stocks.

Canadian investment in foreign securities¹



¹ Includes bonds and stocks.

While there was virtually no change in December, Canadian holdings of foreign bonds increased by \$4.0 billion in 2000, with 90% going to U.S. bonds. The investment in 2000 is roughly on par with the annual average since 1996.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2328-2330, 2378-2380 and 4195.

The December 2000 issue of *Canada's international transactions in securities* (67-002-XIB, \$14/\$132; 67-002-XPB, \$18/\$176) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

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

Canada's international transactions in securities

	September 2000	October 2000	November 2000	December 2000	1999	2000
	\$ millions					
Foreign investment in Canadian securities	551	13,076	-954	-21,621	5,290	18,846
Bonds (net)	-1,876	-374	792	-4,279	4,643	-17,481
Outstanding	1,589	1,160	1,027	1,977	7,789	3,851
New issues	1,465	413	804	204	31,925	20,069
Retirements	-4,797	-2,392	-1,558	-5,364	-35,151	-41,508
Change in interest payable ¹	-133	445	518	-1,095	80	107
Money market paper (net)	-837	1,061	-149	1,487	-13,415	1,118
Government of Canada	-807	271	-804	830	-6,485	-1,134
Other paper	-31	790	655	658	-6,931	2,252
Stocks (net)	3,265	12,388	-1,597	-18,829	14,063	35,209
Outstanding (including retirements)	2,331	-1,802	-2,862	-19,445	6,036	-6,425
New issues	933	14,189	1,264	616	8,027	41,634
Canadian investment in foreign securities	-5,154	-3,603	1,493	-16,059	-22,898	-62,857
Bonds (net)	-1,751	-617	2,857	99	-2,362	-4,002
Stocks (net)	-3,403	-2,986	-1,364	-16,158	-20,536	-58,855

¹ Interest accrued less interest paid.

Note: 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 abroad.

Farm cash receipts

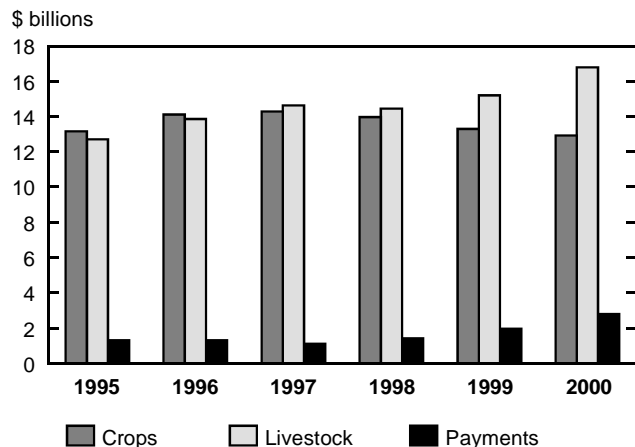
2000

Crop producers saw their receipts fall in 2000 for the third consecutive year, hitting a six-year low. However, livestock farmers saw their receipts rise, driven by higher receipts for hogs and, to a lesser extent, cattle and calves.

Crop receipts fell to \$12.9 billion in 2000, down 2.7% from 1999, as abundant world supplies resulted in low prices for major grains and oilseeds. They stood 6.1% below their previous five-year average (1995 to 1999).

Conversely, livestock farmers saw their receipts rise to a high of \$16.8 billion in 2000, up 10.4% from 1999 and 18.5% above the previous five-year average.

Farm cash receipts



Overall, Canadian farmers received \$32.5 billion from agricultural commodities and program payments in 2000, up 10.7% over its previous five-year average.

However, this total, a 6.7% increase from 1999, tells only half of the story. Cash receipts provide an overall measure of farm businesses' gross revenue. They do not account for expenses incurred by farmers. Statistics Canada will publish preliminary estimates for 2000 net income, which take expenses into account, on May 28.

In addition, cash receipts can vary widely for individual farm operations because of several factors, including commodities, prices and weather. This is especially true when a particular part of the industry continues to see adverse price conditions, such as the crop industry in Canada.

Note to readers

Statistics Canada does not forecast farm cash receipts. These data are based on survey and administrative data from a wide variety of sources.

Farm cash receipts measures the gross revenue of farm businesses in current dollars. They include sales of crops and livestock products (except sales between farms in the same province) and program payments. Receipts are recorded when the money is paid to farmers before any expenses are paid.

Deferments represent sales from grains and oilseeds delivered by western producers for which payments were deferred until the next year. Because these receipts are based on physical deliveries, any deferred payments are deducted from the farm cash receipts of the current calendar year and included when they are liquidated (see "liquidations of deferments" in the farm cash receipts table).

Program payments include payments tied to current agricultural production and paid directly to farmers. Examples of these payments come under the Net Income Stabilization Account, the Crop Insurance Act, provincial stabilization programs and the Canadian Dairy Commission Act. The program payments series does not attempt to cover all payments made to farmers nor does it represent total government expenditure under all assistance programs.

Under the **Canada-Manitoba Adjustment Program** and **Canada-Saskatchewan Adjustment Program**, payments were made to assist grain, oilseed and special crops producers complete their adjustment to the elimination of the transportation subsidies during a period of low commodity prices. These one-time payments are cost-shared by the federal and provincial governments of Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

The **Alberta Farm Income Assistance Program** was designed to address the high cost of shipping grain during a period of low commodity prices as well as rising input costs and adverse weather conditions. It is solely funded by the Alberta government.

The **Agricultural Income Disaster Assistance** program is provided in the form of individual payments to eligible producers and credits to the provincial governments for the programs established to assist producers. Farm cash receipts include only the amount directly paid to producers.

The **Net Income Stabilization Account** program is comprised of two funds. The first holds producer deposits; the second contains the matching government contributions and all accumulated interest earned on both funds. Only producer withdrawals from the second fund are included as payments in farm cash receipts.

Direct program payments rose 42.3% to \$2.8 billion, the highest since 1993 and nearly double the previous five-year average. About three-quarters of this increase can be attributed to one-time payments made to prairie farmers to help them adjust to the elimination of transportation subsidies during a period of low prices.

Cash receipts increased in all provinces except Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland and New Brunswick. The largest percentage decline occurred in Prince Edward Island, down 7.4% from 1999's record high; gains in the livestock sector failed to offset declines in the crop sector and in program payments. Potatoes

accounted for most of Prince Edward Island's 15.7% decline in crop receipts as receipts of table potatoes fell in 2000, the result of lower marketings and reduced prices.

In Alberta, cash receipts rose 12.6% to \$7.3 billion, the highest rate of growth in Canada. Livestock receipts, boosted by rising cattle prices and a rebounding hog market, as well as direct program payments that tripled, more than offset lower crop receipts.

Lower grain, oilseed prices continued to depress crop revenues

Lower prices for major grains and oilseeds meant that producers deferred fewer receipts for crops sold in 1999 for liquidation in 2000. Liquidations of grain and oilseed receipts were down 33.0% to \$630 million, the lowest since 1994. They were the main contributors to 2000's decline in crop receipts.

Prices for grains and oilseeds in 2000 were all below their averages for the 1990s, dragging down crop revenues. Cash receipts fell significantly for canola, total wheat and corn.

Although a record canola crop in 1999 led to an 8.8% increase in deliveries in 2000, receipts fell 11.0% to \$1.6 billion, as prices continued under pressure from large world supplies of edible oils. The average price received by producers of canola in 2000 was the lowest since 1987.

Marketings of wheat, excluding durum, rose 10.2% in 2000, mainly because of the size of the 1999 crop. However, prices fell 5.8% and Canadian Wheat Board payments declined 20.2%. Overall receipts for wheat (excluding durum) decreased 2.3% to \$2.4 billion, 19.5% below the five-year average. Receipts for durum wheat were \$647 million, down 12.2%, because of reduced deliveries and lower Canadian Wheat Board payments.

Corn producers saw their receipts fall 11.6% to \$657 million; both prices and marketings declined. Deliveries were down despite a record production of 9.2 million tonnes in 1999.

After a record \$721 million in 1999, potato receipts fell 7.1% in 2000; both prices and marketings were down. Nevertheless, potato receipts were 15.6% above their five-year average.

In contrast, barley and soybean producers had higher receipts in 2000 compared with 1999. Barley receipts were up 12.0% to \$569 million, and soybean receipts rose 6.5% to \$656 million. Both increases were owing to higher deliveries; prices were virtually unchanged. Higher livestock production in North America, which uses both barley and soybeans as feed, boosted deliveries. Nonetheless, receipts for both commodities were still below their respective previous five-year averages.

Rebounding hog prices boosted livestock receipts

Hog receipts were almost 40% higher in 2000, as prices continued to rebound from the lows reached in December 1998. A 33.6% increase in hog prices, along with a 4.7% increase in marketings of slaughter hogs, helped push total hog receipts to a record \$3.4 billion. Hog production has been expanding since 1993 to take advantage of growing domestic processing and marketing opportunities.

Cattle and calf receipts reached a record \$6.6 billion, up 6.2% from 1999. This total was 24.0% above the previous five-year average. Beef production had been rising gradually since 1993, encouraged in Western Canada by strong demand, low feed prices and access to large, cost-efficient slaughter plants. However, in 2000 marketings dipped slightly, as farmers retained more heifers for breeding. Demand for beef continued strong, keeping prices high. An 8.3% increase in cattle and calf prices contributed to the growth in receipts.

Receipts in the supply-managed sectors rose in 2000. Milk and cream receipts were up 2.6%, surpassing \$4.0 billion in 2000. Dairy receipts rose 4.5% in Quebec and 3.2% in Ontario, the country's leading producers of milk and cream.

Poultry receipts increased 3.7% to \$1.6 billion in 2000. Stronger marketings for both chickens (+3.5%) and turkeys (+9.6%) led the increase, as prices remained stable. In addition, increases in egg production and prices helped push total egg receipts up 7.7% to \$534 million, close to its five-year average.

Program payments were highest in seven years

Program payments reached \$2.8 billion in 2000, up 42.3% from 1999 and nearly double the previous five-year average. Most of this increase came from the \$669 million paid out under the Alberta Farm Income Assistance Program, the Canada-Manitoba Adjustment Program and the Canada-Saskatchewan Adjustment Program. These were one-time initiatives designed to help farmers adjust to the elimination of transportation subsidies at a time of low prices.

Crop insurance payments nearly doubled to \$593 million, the result of both poor growing conditions and increases in the acreage and the value of insured crops.

Payments under the Agricultural Income Disaster Assistance program and its related provincial disaster programs reached \$426 million, a 24.9% increase over 1999. Changes to the program that were implemented in 1999 contributed to this increase.

Farmers withdrew \$456 million from the government portion of the Net Income Stabilization Account, a 2.5% increase over 1999.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3582-3592.

The January–December 2000 issue of *Farm cash receipts* (21-001-XIB, \$15/\$48) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For more information on farm cash receipts, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or

data quality of this release, contact Kim Boyuk (613-951-2510; kimberley.boyuk@statcan.ca) or Paul Murray (613-951-0065; paul.murray@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division.

Farm cash receipts

	1999	2000 ^P	1999 to 2000	October to December 1999	October to December 2000 ^P	Oct.–Dec. 1999 to Oct.–Dec. 2000
	\$ millions		% change	\$ millions		% change
Canada	30,462	32,513	6.7	8,252	8,549	3.6
All wheat ¹	3,209	3,062	-4.6	688	587	-14.7
Wheat excluding durum ¹	2,472	2,416	-2.3	562	434	-22.8
Durum wheat ¹	737	647	-12.2	126	153	21.4
Barley ¹	508	569	12.0	128	141	10.2
Deferments	-584	-571	-2.2	-279	-288	3.2
Liquidations of deferments	940	630	-33.0	21	27	28.6
Canola	1,771	1,576	-11.0	526	424	-19.4
Soybeans	616	656	6.5	208	243	16.8
Corn	743	657	-11.6	229	180	-21.4
Other cereals and oilseeds	339	392	15.6	103	133	29.1
Special crops	724	759	4.8	328	338	3.0
Other crops	5,026	5,196	3.4	1,426	1,470	3.1
Total crops	13,292	12,927	-2.7	3,379	3,256	-3.6
Cattle and calves	6,214	6,598	6.2	1,791	1,804	0.7
Hogs	2,429	3,392	39.6	676	834	23.4
Dairy products	3,919	4,022	2.6	996	1,023	2.7
Poultry and eggs	2,086	2,184	4.7	528	550	4.2
Other livestock	558	596	6.8	162	167	3.1
Total Livestock	15,206	16,792	10.4	4,153	4,378	5.4
Net Income Stabilisation Account	445	456	2.5	108	120	11.1
Crop Insurance	308	593	92.5	144	368	155.6
Income disaster assistance programs	341	426	24.9	129	157	21.7
Provincial stabilization	557	418	-25.0	217	18	-91.7
Dairy subsidy	104	73	-29.8	23	16	-30.4
Other programs	209	829	296.7	99	238	140.4
Total payments	1,964	2,795	42.3	720	916	27.2

^r Revised data.

^P Preliminary data.

¹ Includes Canadian Wheat Board payments.

Note: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

Provincial farm cash receipts

	1999	2000 ^P	1999 to 2000	October to December 1999	October to December 2000 ^P	Oct.-Dec. 1999 to Oct.-Dec. 2000
	\$ millions		% change	\$ millions		% change
Canada	30,462	32,513	6.7	8,252	8,549	3.6
Newfoundland	78	73	-6.4	20	18	-10.0
Prince Edward Island	352	326	-7.4	87	75	-13.8
Nova Scotia	393	414	5.3	118	119	0.8
New Brunswick	372	366	-1.6	101	96	-5.0
Quebec	5,137	5,423	5.6	1,442	1,344	-6.8
Ontario	7,242	7,579	4.7	2,049	2,116	3.3
Manitoba	2,972	3,137	5.6	790	852	7.8
Saskatchewan	5,458	5,781	5.9	1,424	1,477	3.7
Alberta	6,515	7,337	12.6	1,668	1,891	13.4
British Columbia	1,942	2,077	7.0	554	562	1.4

^r Revised data.

^P Preliminary data.

Note: Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.



OTHER RELEASES

Steel primary forms

Week ending February 10, 2001 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending February 10 totalled 267 626 metric tonnes, up 3.2% from 259 335 tonnes a week earlier and down 14.2% from 311 996 tonnes in the same week of 2000. The year-to-date total at the end of the reference week was 1 564 040 tonnes, down 17.8% from 1 903 872 tonnes for the same period in 2000.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-7093; milsomg@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

A geographical profile of manure production

1996

The special Statistics Canada publication, *A geographical profile of livestock manure production in Canada*, is a collection of five annotated maps and graphs that describe the geographic distribution of manure production according to river basin.

This analysis uses 1996 Census of Agriculture data for livestock counts, as well as livestock manure production standards from the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, to estimate amounts of manure

produced. The study profiles the geographic distribution of manure production and associated nutrients. Estimates of bacteria found in livestock manure are also mapped.

In 1996, Canadian livestock produced an estimated 132 billion kilograms of manure, 52% of which was produced by beef cattle, 19% by dairy cows, 16% by hogs, 7% by calves, 3% by poultry, 3% by horses, and less than 1% by sheep.

Manure production was particularly high — at least 2.5 times the national average — in five major geographic clusters, located in central and southern Alberta, southern Manitoba, southern Ontario, southeastern Quebec and Prince Edward Island. There were also two smaller areas with these high levels of production: the west Fraser River area in southern British Columbia and a river basin near Wolfville and Kentville, Nova Scotia.

A geographical profile of livestock manure production in Canada (16F0025XIB, free) is now available on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca). From the *Products and services* page, choose *Free publications*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Nancy Hofmann, Doug Trant or François Soulard (613-951-0297; fax: 613-951-0634; environ@statcan.ca), Environment Accounts and Statistics Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Canadian economic observer, February 2001
Catalogue number **11-010-XPB** (\$23/\$227).

A geographical profile of manure production, 1996
Catalogue number **16F0025XIB**
(Free).

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, December 2000
Catalogue number **31-001-XIB** (\$15/\$147).

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, December 2000
Catalogue number **31-001-XPB** (\$20/\$196).

Refined petroleum products, October 2000
Catalogue number **45-004-XIB** (\$16/\$155).

Refined petroleum products, October 2000
Catalogue number **45-004-XPB** (\$21/\$206).

Wholesale trade, December 2000
Catalogue number **63-008-XIB** (\$14/\$140).

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Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are getting it less and less. In 1995, about 1.5 billion trips were taken on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1995 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

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