



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Monday, March 19, 2001**

For release at 8:30 a.m.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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There are no major releases today.

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## OTHER RELEASES

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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Literacy, numeracy and labour market outcomes in Canada

1994

At the international level, wage returns to literacy appear to be highest in countries, such as Canada and the United States, where the demand for literacy skills is high and where literacy levels are highly variable. This study, available today, attempts to isolate the impact of literacy on the wages of Canadian workers. The findings confirm the importance of literacy to individual economic success in the labour market.

The study used Canadian data from the International Adult Literacy Survey to investigate the relationship between labour market success and literacy skills. The most commonly used and widely accepted measure of labour market success is earnings. Accordingly, this paper focussed on the relationship between literacy and annual, weekly and hourly earnings. It also takes into account other factors that influence labour market outcomes, such as educational attainment, gender and experience.

Literacy has a large impact on earnings, and accounts for about one-third of the estimated "return on education." Each additional year of education raises annual earnings by about 8.3%. Of that, about 3.1 percentage points result from the combined influences of education on literacy and, in turn, literacy on earnings.

Educational attainment appears to have a much larger impact on literacy than does work experience. Results suggest that general labour market experience has little net effect on literacy.

Results also provide some support for the view that literacy skills may play a role in how well immigrants adjust to their new labour market. The small number of immigrants in the sample precludes a stronger conclusion about the relationship between literacy skills and the earnings pattern of immigrants relative to the native-born. Further research is needed in this area.

Individual earnings and parents' education levels are positively linked. However, there is little evidence that the educational attainment of parents exerts a positive impact on the child's earnings as an adult, once both educational attainment and literacy skills are taken into account. This suggests that the positive association between parents' education and individual earnings is due principally to the influence of parents' education on the child's literacy skills and educational attainment.

*Literacy, numeracy and labour market outcomes in Canada* (89-552-MPE, \$10) is now available. See *How to order products*. An electronic version of the publication (89-552-MIE, free), as well as a paper summarizing the findings, *Highlights for literacy, numeracy and labour market outcomes in Canada* (89F0125XIE, free; 89F0125XPE, free) can be downloaded from Statistics Canada's Web site ([www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)). From the *Products and services* page, choose *Free publications*, then *Education*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Scott Murray (613-951-9035), Institutions and Social Statistics Branch. ■

### Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard

January 2001

Oriented strandboard production in January totalled 690 623 cubic metres, up 0.2% from 688 989 cubic metres in January 2000. Particleboard production reached 218 140 cubic metres, up 9.1% from 199 984 cubic metres in January 2000. Fibreboard production totalled 79 044 cubic metres, down 21.7% from 100 974 cubic metres in January 2000.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 31 (series 2, 3 and 5) and 122 (series 8).**

The January 2001 issue of *Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard* (36-003-XIB, \$5/\$47), 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 Sara Breen (613-951-3521; [sara.breen@statcan.ca](mailto:sara.breen@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division ■

### Monthly railway carloadings

December 2000

The freight loaded by railways in December totalled 18.5 million metric tonnes (excluding intermodal traffic), a decrease of 7.0% from December 1999. The intermodal tonnage, made up of containers on flatcars and trailers on flatcars, was 1.7 million metric tonnes, a decrease of 17.1% compared with December 1999.

**Available on CANSIM: matrix 1430.**

The December 2000 issue of *Railway carloadings (monthly)* (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 J.R. Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0009; [larocque@statcan.ca](mailto:larocque@statcan.ca)), Transportation Division. ■

## Sawmills and planing mills

December 2000

Sawmills in Canada produced 4 800.0 thousand cubic metres of lumber and ties in December 2000, a decrease of 5.6% from 5 087.0 thousand cubic metres produced in December 1999.

Year-to-date production for 2000 was 69 657.7 thousand cubic metres, up 0.2% from 69 493.8 thousand cubic metres produced during 1999. Estimates for 1999 and 2000 have been revised.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 53 and 122 (series 2).**

The December 2000 issue of *Sawmills and planing mills* (35-003-XIB, \$9/\$86) 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 Gilles Simard (613-951-3516; [simales@statcan.ca](mailto:simales@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction, and Energy Division. ■

## For-hire motor carriers of freight, top carriers

Fourth quarter 2000

The top 81 for-hire motor carriers of freight (Canada-based trucking companies earning \$25 million or more annually) generated operating revenues of \$1.75 billion during the fourth quarter. Average revenue per carrier rose 11% compared with the fourth quarter of 1999 to \$21.59 million, while average expenses climbed 12% to \$20.44 million. On average, top carriers continued to pay more for fuel, 28% more than in the fourth quarter of 1999.

The operating ratio (operating expenses divided by operating revenues) for all top for-hire carriers deteriorated from the fourth quarter of 1999 from 0.94 to 0.95 (a ratio of greater than 1.00 represents an operating loss).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Gilles Paré (613-951-2517; fax: 613-951-0579; [paregil@statcan.ca](mailto:paregil@statcan.ca)), Transportation Division. ■

## Stocks of frozen poultry meat

March 1, 2001 (preliminary)

Data for stocks of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on March 1 are now available.

**Available on CANSIM: matrices 5675-5677.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandra Giefeldt (613-951-2505), or Gilles Beaudry (613-951-7128), ([gilles.beaudry@statcan.ca](mailto:gilles.beaudry@statcan.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

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## NEW PRODUCTS

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**Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard,**  
January 2001  
**Catalogue number 36-003-XIB (\$5/\$47).**

**Railway carloadings (monthly),** December 2000  
**Catalogue number 52-001-XIE (\$8/\$77).**

**Literacy, numeracy and labour market outcomes in**  
**Canada, no. 8**  
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(Free).

**Literacy, numeracy and labour market outcomes in**  
**Canada, no. 8**  
**Catalogue number 89-552-MPE (\$10).**

**Literacy, numeracy and labour market outcomes in**  
**Canada, 1994**  
**Catalogue number 89F0125XIE**  
(Free).

**Literacy, numeracy and labour market outcomes in**  
**Canada, 1994**  
**Catalogue number 89F0125XPE**  
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Catalogue 11-001E (F) (English) 11-001E/11-001E-001E



Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997  
For release at 8:30 a.m.



**MAJOR RELEASES**

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2  
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are getting it less and less. In 1995, about 10 million took an average of about 10 trips 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.

**OTHER RELEASES**

- **Help-wanted Index, May 1997** 3
- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 8
- **Steel primary forms, season ending May 31, 1997** 12
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**PUBLICATIONS RELEASED** 11

### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001E.

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