



The Daily

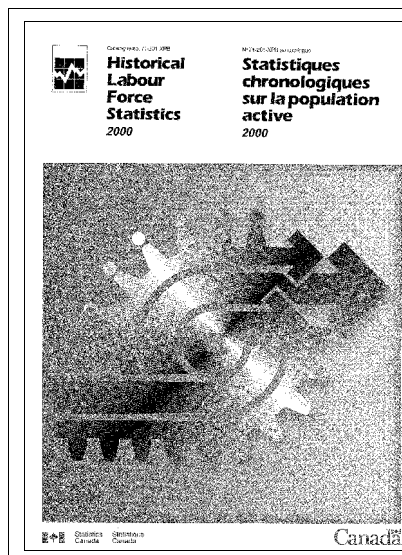
Statistics Canada

Thursday, March 29, 2001
For release at 8:30 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Industrial product and raw materials price indexes, February 2001** 3
The annual rates of growth for both industrial and raw material prices continued to slow in February. This marks the third consecutive month of decelerating growth for the Industrial Product Price Index and the fourth for the Raw Materials Price Index.
- **Labour productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, fourth quarter 2000** 6
Labour productivity growth in the business sector was 0.7% in the fourth quarter compared with the last quarter of 1999. This was lower than rates of growth in the first three quarters. The moderate rise occurred in the context of lower growth rates in domestic demand and hours worked. In contrast, unit labour costs grew 3.1% in the fourth quarter compared with the same quarter of 1999.

(continued on page 2)



Historical labour force statistics 2000

Historical labour force statistics is an annual publication that provides the seasonally adjusted employment and unemployment statistics presented each month in the media. It includes data going back 10 to 20 years on general labour market characteristics for Canada, the provinces and metropolitan areas. Each year, the series are updated and revised according to the latest information on seasonal models and factors.

Historical labour force statistics, 2000 (71-201-XPB, \$75) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, contact Jeannine Usalcas (613-951-4720; fax: 613-951-2869; usaljea@statcan.ca), Labour Statistics Division.



OTHER RELEASES

Employment, earnings and hours, January 2001	9
Steel primary forms, week ending March 24, 2001	11
Production and disposition of tobacco products, February 2001	11
Construction type plywood, January 2001	12

NEW PRODUCTS 13

MAJOR RELEASES

Industrial product and raw materials price indexes

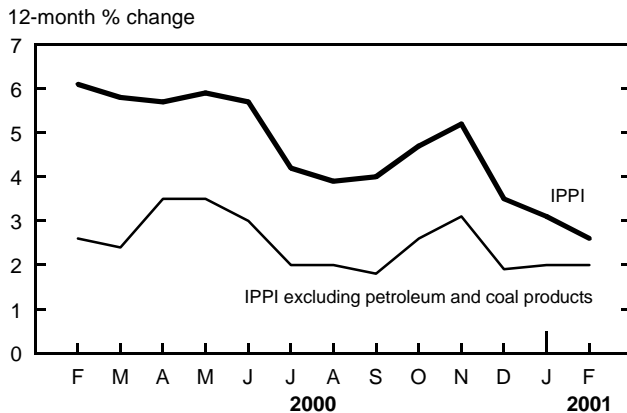
February 2001

The annual rates of growth for both industrial and raw material prices continued to slow in February. This marks the third consecutive month of decelerating growth for the Industrial Product Price Index and the fourth for the Raw Materials Price Index.

Manufacturers' prices, as measured by the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI), grew 2.6% between February 2000 and February 2001, the lowest rate since August 1999.

Stabilizing petroleum and coal product prices were partly responsible for this reduced momentum. For the first time in over a year, petroleum and coal product prices were not a predominant force behind the annual increase. If the impact of petroleum and coal product prices were excluded, the IPPI would have increased 2.0% instead of 2.6%. Petroleum and coal product prices were up 11.1% from February 2000, their smallest annual increase since May 1999.

Petroleum product prices had lessening influence on the IPPI



Motor vehicle and paper and paper product prices provided the greatest upward price pressure, which was partly counterbalanced by falling lumber prices.

On a month-to-month basis, industrial prices gained ground in February (+0.5%) after having declined the two previous months. Prices for motor vehicles, primary metals, meat and petroleum products were the major factors behind this increase.

Manufacturers paid 4.7% more for their raw materials in February compared with February 2000.

Note to readers

This release combines the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI) and the Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI), which were previously reported in separate releases. These releases were combined to provide a consolidated view of industrial prices.

The IPPI reflects the prices that producers in Canada receive as the goods leave the plant gate. It does not reflect what the consumer pays. Unlike the Consumer Price Index (CPI), the IPPI excludes indirect taxes and all the costs that occur between the time a good leaves the plant and the time the final user takes possession of it, including the transportation, wholesale and retail costs.

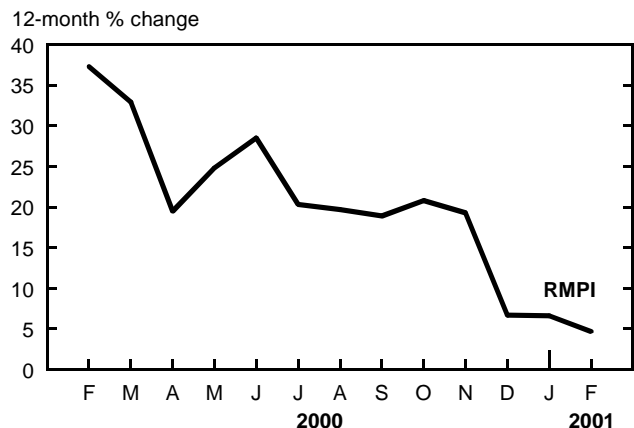
Canadian producers export many goods, and they often quote their prices in foreign currencies, particularly for motor vehicles, pulp, paper, and wood products. Consequently, a rise or fall in the value of the Canadian dollar against its U.S. counterpart affects the IPPI.

The RMPI reflects the prices paid by Canadian manufacturers for key raw materials. Many of these prices are set in the world market. Unlike the IPPI, the RMPI includes goods not produced in Canada.

This is down from 6.6% in January and remains well below the recent peak of 37.3% in February 2000.

In contrast with the IPPI, mineral fuel prices were responsible for most of the upward price pressure in the annual Raw Materials Price Index, accompanied by more modest animal and vegetable product price increases. If mineral fuels were excluded, the RMPI would have advanced 1.6% instead of 4.7% in February compared with February 2000. These advances were somewhat offset by falling non-ferrous metal and ferrous material prices.

Slower annual growth rate for raw materials prices



On a monthly basis, mineral fuel, animal product and non-ferrous metal prices were the major contributors to the 1.5% rise in prices from January to February. Most of the downward price pressure came from the ferrous materials category.

The IPPI (1992=100) stood at 129.3 in February, up from 128.6 in January. The RMPI (1992=100) rose to 146.5 in February from its revised level of 144.3 in January.

Exchange rate effect pushed up prices

Between mid-January and mid-February, the value of the U.S. dollar strengthened noticeably against the Canadian dollar, pushing up commodity prices quoted in U.S. dollars. The impact on the IPPI was such that if the exchange rate had remained unchanged, the IPPI would have edged up 0.1% from January to February.

On a 12-month basis, the influence of the dollar was also evident. Without the exchange rate effect, the IPPI would have risen 1.3% rather than 2.6% from February 2000 to February 2001.

The impact of the exchange rate was particularly apparent in car and truck prices. Automobile and truck export prices climbed 1.5% in February compared with January, while their domestic counterparts edged up 0.1% and 0.3%, respectively. Overall, motor vehicle prices were up 1.4% compared with January and 6.1% compared with February 2000.

Motor vehicle and petroleum prices pushed up finished goods prices

Rising prices for motor vehicles and petroleum products pushed up both monthly and annual prices for finished goods. After two consecutive monthly declines, finished goods prices gained 0.7% between January and February, and were 3.6% higher than in February 2000.

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

Slower annual growth rate for input good prices

In February, intermediate goods producers found the change in their annual prices decelerating for a fourth consecutive month, as lower lumber prices were more than offset by higher prices for paper, petroleum and chemical products. Prices for input goods rose 2.0% in February compared with February 2000, a slower gain than in January (+2.8%).

On a monthly basis, prices for input goods advanced 0.5% on the strength of prices for primary metal products, lumber, meat products and motor vehicles.

"Intermediate goods," sometimes referred to as "input goods," are goods which are generally bought by other manufacturers to be used in the production process (i.e., to make other goods).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1870-1879.

The February 2001 issue of *Industry price indexes* (62-011-XPB, \$22/\$217) will be available in April. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Client Services Unit (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca), Prices Division. □

Industrial product price indexes (1992=100)

	Relative importance	February 2000	January 2001 ^r	February 2001 ^p	% change	
					February 2000 to February 2001	January to February 2001
Industrial product price index	100.00	126.0	128.6	129.3	2.6	0.5
Intermediate goods¹	59.28	127.5	129.5	130.1	2.0	0.5
First-stage intermediate goods ²	7.91	138.8	145.7	146.5	5.5	0.5
Second-stage intermediate goods ³	51.37	125.8	127.0	127.6	1.4	0.5
Finished goods⁴	40.72	123.6	127.2	128.1	3.6	0.7
Finished foods and feeds	10.38	115.9	117.6	117.8	1.6	0.2
Capital equipment	10.21	124.6	127.7	128.7	3.3	0.8
All other finished goods	20.13	127.1	131.8	133.1	4.7	1.0
Aggregation by commodities						
Meat, fish and dairy products	7.27	123.1	125.3	126.5	2.8	1.0
Fruit, vegetable, feed, miscellaneous food products	6.72	109.4	111.9	111.7	2.1	-0.2
Beverages	2.12	119.0	121.9	122.0	2.5	0.1
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.72	140.6	151.7	151.4	7.7	-0.2
Rubber, leather, plastic fabric products	3.01	117.1	119.7	119.9	2.4	0.2
Textile products	1.82	106.9	108.4	108.1	1.1	-0.3
Knitted products and clothing	1.93	109.9	110.4	110.3	0.4	-0.1
Lumber, sawmill, other wood products	5.20	145.6	124.3	125.8	-13.6	1.2
Furniture and fixtures	1.46	118.5	119.9	119.9	1.2	0.0
Pulp and paper products	7.65	135.7	149.0	149.7	10.3	0.5
Printing and publishing	3.05	136.7	140.7	141.1	3.2	0.3
Primary metal products	7.58	130.6	123.4	124.7	-4.5	1.1
Metal fabricated products	4.11	125.6	125.1	125.3	-0.2	0.2
Machinery and equipment	4.08	115.8	115.7	115.9	0.1	0.2
Autos, trucks, other transportation equipment	18.76	130.2	135.1	136.7	5.0	1.2
Electrical and communications products	6.03	104.4	105.4	105.6	1.1	0.2
Non-metallic mineral products	2.12	118.4	120.7	120.7	1.9	0.0
Petroleum and coal products ⁵	6.01	152.8	168.4	169.8	11.1	0.8
Chemicals and chemical products	7.60	120.2	128.7	128.8	7.2	0.1
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.45	120.8	119.0	119.3	-1.2	0.3
Miscellaneous non-manufactured commodities	0.31	126.5	119.3	121.4	-4.0	1.8

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

¹ Intermediate goods are goods used principally to produce other goods.

² First-stage intermediate goods are items used most frequently to produce other intermediate goods.

³ Second-stage intermediate goods are items most commonly used to produce final goods.

⁴ Finished goods are goods most commonly used for immediate consumption or for capital investment.

⁵ This index is estimated for the current month.

Raw materials price indexes (1992=100)

	Relative importance	February 2000	January 2001 ^r	February 2001 ^p	% change	
					February 2000 to February 2001	January to February 2001
Raw materials price index (RMPI)	100.00	139.9	144.3	146.5	4.7	1.5
Mineral fuels	31.47	177.5	190.2	194.2	9.4	2.1
Vegetable products	9.41	110.6	119.1	119.2	7.8	0.1
Animals and animal products	24.41	117.8	119.3	122.8	4.2	2.9
Wood	14.88	140.2	141.6	141.9	1.2	0.2
Ferrous materials	3.17	122.3	111.5	110.0	-10.1	-1.3
Non-ferrous metals	13.81	121.0	115.8	116.4	-3.8	0.5
Non-metallic minerals	2.85	120.2	123.1	122.8	2.2	-0.2
RMPI excluding mineral fuels	68.53	122.6	123.2	124.6	1.6	1.1

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

Labour productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost

Fourth quarter 2000

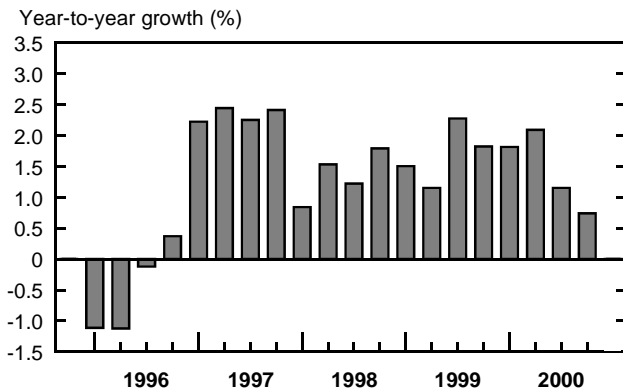
The quarterly estimates of productivity are meant to help those who focus on the analysis of the short-run relationship between output, employment, remuneration and hours worked. They are highly volatile, subject to revision, and should be used with caution to infer long-run trends. Labour productivity growth in the business sector was up 0.7% in the fourth quarter compared with the last quarter of 1999. The growth of productivity registered in the fourth quarter represented a slowdown relative to the three previous quarters of 2000. The revised year-over-year growth rates for the three previous quarters were 1.1% in the third, 2.1% in the second and 1.8% in the first quarter.

The slowing of productivity growth occurred in the context of lower domestic demand and hours worked. As is often the case when the growth rate in the economy begins to decline, the growth of hours worked slowed relatively less than did output over the last quarter of 2000.

Despite the slowdown in the fourth quarter, the succession of quarterly increases in the early part of the year was sufficient to produce an average annual gain of 1.4% for 2000. This is slightly lower than the 1.7% registered in 1999, but higher than the average annual increase of 1.0% seen since 1988.

During the period 1988 to 2000, the annual growth of productivity has fluctuated between -0.5% and 2.4%. The largest increase occurred in 1992, and the only decrease in 1996.

Labour productivity growth slowed down slightly in last two quarters of 2000



Note to readers

Each year, annual and quarterly series on productivity and related variables such as unit costs are revised to incorporate the most recent revisions that are made to the input-output tables. In October 2000, final revisions of gross domestic product (GDP) and labour income for 1996 and revisions of preliminary estimates for 1997, 1998 and 1999 were released.

In addition, estimates of hours worked of the first three quarters of the year that are used in the productivity estimates are revised at the end of the fourth quarter, when benchmarks become available.

This release of quarterly productivity estimates includes revisions of the quarterly estimates for the period of 1996 to 2000 using both of these sets of changes.

In this release, "productivity" refers to labour productivity. These productivity estimates are based on the value-added concept of output. To ensure consistency with annual data, the quarterly index of productivity growth based on real value added is benchmarked to the annual estimates that are derived from a Fisher chained index up to the most current year for which the Input-output tables are available (currently 1997). After 1997, it is constructed from a Laspeyres volume index based to 1992. More precisely, it is based on the growth of the industry real GDP index at factor cost for the business sector, from which the GDP arising from owner-occupied dwellings is subtracted.

The quarterly estimates provided here are limited to the overall business sector. This aggregate excludes all non-business production activities as well as the rents of owner-occupied dwellings. Corresponding exclusions are also made to labour compensation and hours worked to make output and labour input data consistent with one another.

Definitions

Labour productivity, or real GDP per hour worked, is the ratio of output to labour input (hours worked). Economic performance as measured by labour productivity must be interpreted carefully. This indicator reflects changes in the other factors of production such as capital, in addition to growth in productive efficiency.

Labour compensation for all jobs includes all payments in cash or in kind made by domestic producers to persons at work as remuneration for work. This includes the salaries and supplementary labour income of paid workers, plus an imputed labour income for self-employed workers.

Unit labour cost is the labour cost per unit of output. It is calculated as the ratio of labour compensation to real GDP. It is also the equivalent of the ratio between labour compensation per hour worked and labour productivity.

Unit labour costs increased in the last quarter of 2000

Growth in unit labour cost occurs when wage increases are growing more than labour productivity. During the fourth quarter, hourly compensation gained 3.9%; labour productivity growth increased 0.7%. Consequently, unit wage costs rose 3.1%.

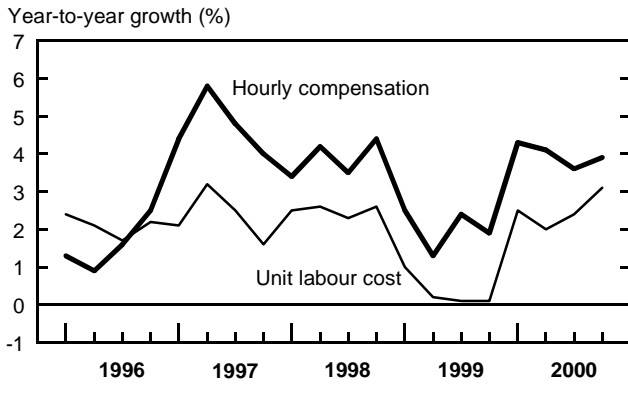
This quarterly increase follows relatively constant increases, which fluctuated between 2.0% and 2.5% during the three previous quarters of 2000. These results for 2000 contrast with those of 1999 when unit labour cost growth remained close to zero for the three last quarters of 2000. On an annual basis, unit labour costs increased by 2.5% in 2000, compared with 0.3% in 1999. However, the unit labour cost increases in 2000 were about the same as those seen in 1997 and 1998.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 9484.

These series are available from the first quarter of 1987 up to the third quarter of 2000. These data are normally published 10 weeks after the end of the reference quarter.

For more information on concepts and definitions, a technical note is available on request. For more information, contact John Baldwin (613-951-8588; baldjoh@statcan.ca) or Jean-Pierre Maynard, (613-951-3654; maynard@statcan.ca); fax: 613-951-5403; Micro-economic Analysis Division. □

Unit labour costs rose in 2000



Business sector: Labour productivity and related variables

Year	Quarter	Labour productivity	Real value added	Hours worked	Hourly compensation	Unit labour costs
% change from the previous year						
1988		0.2	4.6	4.4	6.2	6.0
1989		0.1	2.5	2.3	5.3	5.2
1990		0.1	-0.5	-0.6	4.3	4.3
1991		1.0	-3.3	-4.2	5.4	4.4
1992		2.4	0.5	-1.8	3.2	0.9
1993		1.4	2.9	1.5	0.7	-0.7
1994		2.3	5.8	3.4	0.0	-2.2
1995		2.0	3.7	1.6	2.7	0.6
1996		-0.5	2.1	2.6	1.6	2.1
1997		2.3	5.7	3.3	4.8	2.4
1998		1.3	3.9	2.5	3.9	2.5
1999		1.7	5.3	3.5	2.0	0.3
2000		1.4	5.3	3.8	4.0	2.5
% change from previous quarter, seasonally adjusted						
1998	First	0.0	0.5	0.5	1.2	1.2
	Second	0.8	0.6	-0.2	2.1	1.3
	Third	0.3	0.6	0.3	-0.1	-0.3
	Fourth	0.7	1.6	0.9	1.1	0.4
1999	First	-0.3	1.3	1.6	-0.6	-0.4
	Second	0.4	1.2	0.8	0.9	0.5
	Third	1.4	1.9	0.5	1.0	-0.4
	Fourth	0.3	1.3	1.0	0.6	0.3
2000	First	-0.3	1.5	1.8	1.7	2.0
	Second	0.7	1.1	0.4	0.7	0.0
	Third	0.5	1.1	0.6	0.5	0.0
	Fourth	-0.1	0.5	0.6	0.9	1.1
% change from corresponding quarter of previous year, seasonally adjusted						
1998	First	0.8	5.1	4.2	3.4	2.5
	Second	1.5	4.1	2.6	4.2	2.6
	Third	1.2	2.9	1.7	3.5	2.3
	Fourth	1.8	3.4	1.6	4.4	2.6
1999	First	1.5	4.2	2.6	2.5	1.0
	Second	1.1	4.8	3.6	1.3	0.2
	Third	2.3	6.2	3.8	2.4	0.1
	Fourth	1.8	5.9	4.0	1.9	0.1
2000	First	1.8	6.1	4.2	4.3	2.5
	Second	2.1	5.9	3.8	4.1	2.0
	Third	1.1	5.1	3.9	3.6	2.4
	Fourth	0.7	4.2	3.4	3.9	3.1

OTHER RELEASES

Employment, earnings and hours

January 2001 (preliminary)

Average weekly earnings for all employees increased slightly in January to \$659.46 from \$658.80 in December. Year-over-year average weekly earnings for all employees rose only 1.9%, after gaining between 2.2% and 2.5% for most of 2000. Recent weakness in earnings growth can be mostly attributed to lower overtime earnings and hours for hourly paid employees in Ontario. Earnings growth from January 2000 to January 2001 was lower than the growth rate of the Consumer Price Index (+3.0%) for the same period.

Earnings growth from January 2000 to January 2001 was much stronger in service-producing industries (+2.6%) than in goods-producing industries (+0.4%). Slower growth was especially notable in manufacturing in Ontario.

In Ontario, a drop in average weekly earnings of \$1.93 from December has reduced the year-over-year earnings growth to 1.7% since January 2000. Year-over-year earnings growth in Quebec was 1.9%. Average earnings in Alberta were up 3.2%, owing to strength in service-producing industries such as finance and insurance, professional services and health care. Average earnings growth in British Columbia was only 1.2%, held back by earnings declines in forestry and manufacturing.

Average hourly earnings for hourly paid employees were \$16.40 in January, down 4 cents from December. Average weekly hours for hourly rated employees were unchanged at 32.0; a small decline in overtime hours was offset by a slight increase in regular paid hours. Losses in average paid hours in goods-producing industries (especially manufacturing) were offset by gains in hours in service-producing industries.

The number of employees on payrolls increased by 32,000 in January, the 17th consecutive monthly increase. The strongest employment gains were in construction and retail trade. Wholesale trade and finance and insurance saw the largest employment decreases. Most provinces and territories gained employment; the largest gains were in Quebec, Ontario and Alberta. Manitoba, British Columbia and Yukon saw small employment declines.

Note: Beginning with this release, the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours will publish its estimates based on the North American Industry Classification (NAICS). The NAICS-based estimates are not comparable to the previously published estimates based on the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) of 1980. Therefore, in order to facilitate this transition, NAICS-based historical series from January 1991 to December 2000 have been produced. Please note that the levels of employment and average earnings of the NAICS-based series have been adjusted to reflect the levels derived from the administrative sample and were also affected by slight modifications to the industrial coverage and improvements to the methodology of the survey. In addition, seasonal factors have been revised to improve the historical consistency of seasonally adjusted estimates.

A concordance table between NAICS and 1980 SIC codes is available on request. A description of the conversion process and its impact on the data will be available in the April 2001 issue of *Employment, earnings and hours* (72-002-XIB; 72-002-XPB) or may be obtained from Jean Leduc (613-951-4090, fax: 613-951-4087; labour@statcan.ca). For more information on the NAICS consult the *Concepts, definitions and methods* page on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca).

Available on CANSIM: matrices 17000-17238 and 17252-17283.

Detailed industry data and other labour market indicators will be available in April through standard tables in the monthly publication *Employment, earnings and hours* (72-002-XIB, \$24/\$240; 72-002-XPB, \$32/\$320). Annual averages for 2000 are now available through CANSIM and by custom tabulations from Labour Statistics Division. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jean Leduc or Robert Frindt (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; labour@statcan.ca), Labour Statistics Division. □

Average weekly earnings for all employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	January 2000	December 2000 ^r	January 2001 ^p	December 2000 to January 2001	January 2000 to January 2001
	seasonally adjusted				
	\$			% change	
Industrial aggregate	647.11	658.80	659.46	0.1	1.9
Forestry, logging and support	801.59	804.22	813.78	1.2	1.5
Mining and oil and gas	1,116.60	1,146.31	1,147.95	0.1	2.8
Utilities	993.31	999.98	1,002.18	0.2	0.9
Construction	802.24	813.81	814.58	0.1	1.5
Manufacturing	790.18	793.05	790.27	-0.4	0.0
Wholesale trade	758.18	754.02	755.36	0.2	-0.4
Retail trade	430.77	427.40	429.64	0.5	-0.3
Transportation and warehousing	725.38	732.45	734.81	0.3	1.3
Information and cultural industries	766.06	775.54	778.03	0.3	1.6
Finance and insurance	827.36	836.00	845.90	1.2	2.2
Real estate and rental and leasing	577.53	610.76	613.75	0.5	6.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	840.83	888.97	886.67	-0.3	5.5
Management of companies and enterprises	834.70	818.80	820.11	0.2	-1.7
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	501.07	531.19	533.53	0.4	6.5
Educational Services	668.89	684.14	684.36	0.0	2.3
Health care and social assistance	551.50	573.68	575.47	0.3	4.3
Arts, entertainment and recreation	456.03	467.95	471.30	0.7	3.3
Accommodation and food services	268.72	278.39	280.12	0.6	4.2
Other services (excluding public administration)	495.30	512.98	515.30	0.5	4.0
Public administration	746.26	750.20	751.14	0.1	0.7
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland	584.06	601.84	600.73	-0.2	2.9
Prince Edward Island	512.48	521.20	524.72	0.7	2.4
Nova Scotia	553.97	567.01	570.25	0.6	2.9
New Brunswick	570.46	595.19	590.02	-0.9	3.4
Quebec	607.55	616.83	618.87	0.3	1.9
Ontario	690.25	703.65	701.72	-0.3	1.7
Manitoba	576.38	590.49	585.80	-0.8	1.6
Saskatchewan	579.74	593.38	592.32	-0.2	2.2
Alberta	654.46	671.16	675.68	0.7	3.2
British Columbia	656.72	662.90	664.60	0.3	1.2
Yukon	735.82	741.83	740.39	-0.2	0.6
Northwest Territories ¹			854.56		
Nunavut ¹			780.26		

^r Revised estimates.

^p Preliminary estimates.

¹ Data not seasonally adjusted.

Number of employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	November 2000	December 2000 ^r	January 2001 ^p	November to December 2000	December to January 2000
	seasonally adjusted				
	'000			% change	
Industrial aggregate	12,661	12,697	12,729	0.3	0.3
Forestry, logging and support	81	82	82	1.2	0.0
Mining and oil and gas	136	136	137	0.0	0.7
Utilities	111	111	111	0.0	0.0
Construction	544	552	560	1.5	1.4
Manufacturing	2,072	2,073	2,071	0.0	-0.1
Wholesale trade	731	741	731	1.4	-1.3
Retail trade	1,454	1,462	1,470	0.6	0.5
Transportation and warehousing	612	614	616	0.3	0.3
Information and cultural industries	342	343	342	0.3	-0.3
Finance and insurance	550	552	547	0.4	-0.9
Real estate and rental and leasing	221	223	223	0.9	0.0
Professional, scientific and technical services	637	639	639	0.3	0.0
Management of companies and enterprises	81	84	84	3.7	0.0
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	515	517	519	0.4	0.4
Educational Services	934	937	941	0.3	0.4
Health care and social assistance	1,233	1,234	1,238	0.1	0.3
Arts, entertainment and recreation	222	223	223	0.5	0.0
Accommodation and food services	926	931	936	0.5	0.5
Other services (excluding public administration)	467	469	472	0.4	0.6
Public administration	718	717	719	-0.1	0.3
Provinces and territories					
Newfoundland	173	173	173	0.0	0.0
Prince Edward Island	55	55	56	0.0	1.8
Nova Scotia	353	356	358	0.8	0.6
New Brunswick	289	291	292	0.7	0.3
Quebec	3,004	3,010	3,017	0.2	0.2
Ontario	4,948	4,973	4,983	0.5	0.2
Manitoba	493	497	496	0.8	-0.2
Saskatchewan	367	368	369	0.3	0.3
Alberta	1,330	1,330	1,339	0.0	0.7
British Columbia	1,607	1,608	1,605	0.1	-0.2
Yukon	15	15	15	0.0	0.0
Northwest Territories ¹	19	18	21	-5.3	16.7
Nunavut ¹	9	9	9	0.0	0.0

^r Revised estimates.

^p Preliminary estimates.

¹ Data not seasonally adjusted.

Steel primary forms

Week ending March 24, 2001 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending March 24 totalled 287 818 metric tonnes, down 1.4% from 291 887 tonnes a week earlier and down 13.1% from 331 318 tonnes in the same week of 2000. The year-to-date total at the end of the reference week was 3 284 949 tonnes, down 15.6% from 3 892 009 tonnes produced in the same period of 2000.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Julie Mayer (613-951-5370; julie.mayer@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Production and disposition of tobacco products

February 2001

Cigarette production saw a strong upsurge in February after slumping in January. Shipments increased as well, but to a lesser extent, and inventories grew marginally.

February production recovered to 3.7 billion cigarettes, compared with 2.9 billion in January. This represents an advance of 26%, although it was 1% below production in February 2000. For the two first months of 2001, total production was 6.6 billion cigarettes, down 11% from the same two months in 2000.

During February, 3.6 billion cigarettes were sold. Although sales grew 10% over January, they were 11% lower than February 2000 sales. Year-to-date sales,

at 6.8 billion cigarettes, were 3% less than sales to the end of February 2000.

Inventories gained 2% and closed for February at 4.0 billion cigarettes, which was 2% lower than closing inventories in February 2000.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 46.

The February 2001 issue of *Production and disposition of tobacco products* (32-022-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 Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511; zylspet@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Construction type plywood

January 2001

Canadian firms produced 164 621 cubic metres of construction-type plywood during January, up 1.4% from the 162 310 cubic metres produced during January 2000.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (level 1).

The January 2001 issue of *Construction type plywood* (35-001-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), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Vista on the agri-food industry and the farm community, March 2001
Catalogue number 21-004-XIE
 (Free).

Construction type plywood, January 2001
Catalogue number 35-001-XIB (\$5/\$47).

Electric power generating stations, 1999
Catalogue number 57-206-XIB (\$23).

Historical labour force statistics, 2000
Catalogue number 71-201-XPB (\$75).

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:

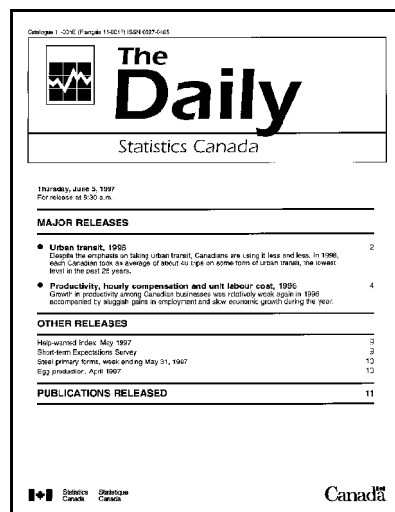
Please refer to the • Title • Catalogue number • Volume number • Issue number • Your VISA or MasterCard number.

In Canada and the United States call:	1-800-267-6677
From other countries call:	1-613-951-7277
To fax your order:	1-877-287-4369
Address changes or account inquiries:	1-800-700-1033

To order a product by mail write: Statistics Canada, Circulation Management, Dissemination Division, Ottawa, K1A 0T6. Include a cheque or money order payable to **Receiver General of Canada/Publications**. Canadian customers add 7% GST and applicable PST.

To order by Internet: write to order@statcan.ca or download an electronic version by accessing Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca) under the headings *Products and services* and *Fee publications* (\$).

Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.



Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001E.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-H, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

To access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at <http://www.statcan.ca>. To receive *The Daily* each morning by E-mail, send an E-mail message to listproc@statcan.ca. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Editor: Tom Vradenburg (613-951-1103, tom.vradenburg@statcan.ca)
 Head of Official Release: Madeleine Simard (613-951-1088), madeleine.simard@statcan.ca

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2001. Citation in newsprint, magazine, radio, and television reporting is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source. Any other reproduction is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source on all copies as follows: Statistics Canada, *The Daily*, catalogue 11-001E, along with date and page references.