



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

**Friday, June 15, 2001**  
For release at 8:30 a.m.

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **Consumer Price Index, May 2001** 2  
Consumers faced a 3.9% average increase in May compared with May 2000 in the prices of the goods and services in the Consumer Price Index basket.
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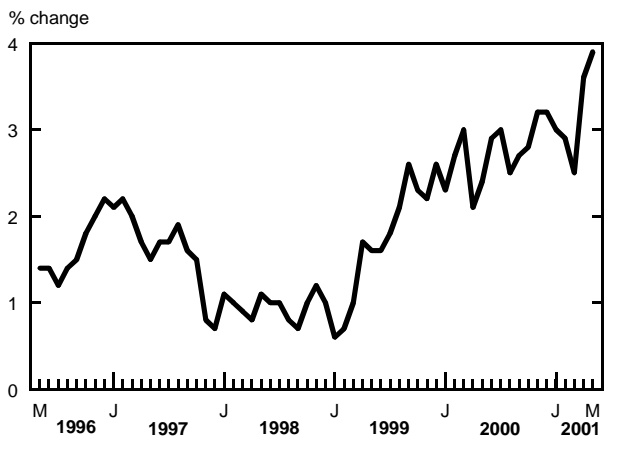
## MAJOR RELEASES

### Consumer Price Index

May 2001

Consumers faced a 3.9% average increase in May compared with May 2000 in the prices of the goods and services in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket. This surpasses April's rise of 3.6%, and is the largest increase since November 1991.

**Percentage change in the Consumer Price Index from the same month of the previous year**



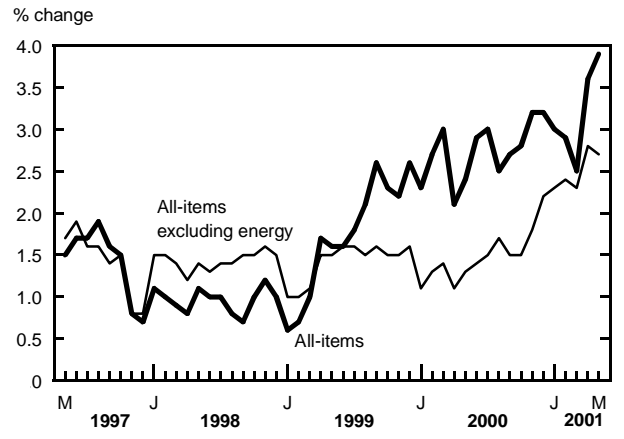
Once again, energy prices were a driving force behind these gains, accounting for more than one-third of the All-items annual increase. After an 11.6% increase in April, energy prices continued to rise in May to 16.0% over their May 2000 level. All energy components were up on an annual basis, but most of the upward price pressure was the result of a record 67.4% jump in natural gas prices and a 12.0% rise in gasoline prices. Twelve-month advances in the indexes for natural gas ranged between 25.8% in Saskatchewan and 85.8% in Alberta.

When the energy component is excluded, the increase in prices is lessened. The All-items excluding energy index rose 2.7% in May compared with May 2000. This advance is smaller than April's annual increase of 2.8%, but still higher than March's 2.3% rise.

**Note to readers**

For the first time this month, Statistics Canada is calculating, on behalf of the Bank of Canada, an index series for All-items excluding the eight most volatile components. Those eight components, as defined by the Bank, are: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain its measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, please consult the Bank of Canada Web site ([www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation](http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation)).

**Annual change in the CPI and in the CPI excluding energy**



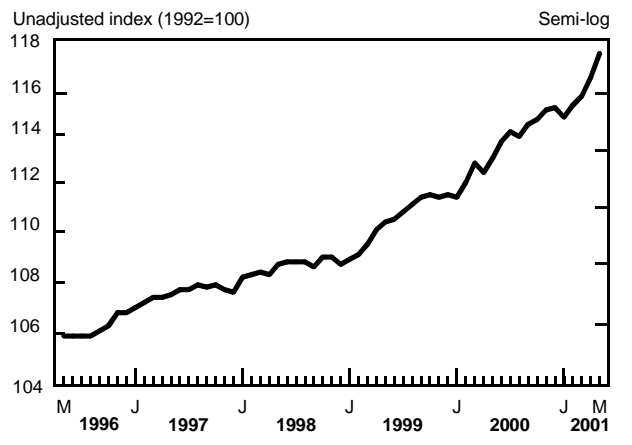
Higher food prices were also key, accounting for close to one-quarter of the rise in the All-items index. Higher prices for beef, fresh fruit, restaurant meals and fresh vegetables helped push up the food index 5.2% on an annual basis. Beef prices were 19.2% higher than in May 2000, reflecting continued weak supplies. Inclement weather was among the factors contributing to an 18.7% climb in fresh fruit prices. Poor weather also affected fresh vegetable prices, as did higher production and transportation costs; together, these factors helped bring about an 11.8% rise.

Cigarette prices, mortgage interest cost, telephone services prices and rent also pushed up the All-items CPI, but were partly offset by lower prices for air transportation and computer equipment and supplies.

### Month-to-month rise surpasses that of April

The CPI rose 0.9% from April to May, outpacing April's 0.7% advance to be the largest monthly increase since January 1991. Higher prices for gasoline, natural gas, traveller accommodation, cigarettes, fresh fruit and homeowner's maintenance and repairs boosted the index. Lower prices for women's and men's clothing partly offset these effects. Much of the upward price pressure on the All-items index came from Alberta's 3.6% monthly rise.

**Consumer Price Index**



Gasoline prices advanced 5.4% from April to May, on the heels of April's 5.5% increase. Drivers are facing higher gasoline prices due to increasing North American demand at the start of the peak summer season. The impact was greatest on the prairies, with increases above 10.0% in each of those provinces.

Natural gas prices climbed 14.6% in May, accounting for more than one-quarter of the All-items monthly increase. Most of the advance came from Alberta, where the discontinuation of the provincial government credit resulted in a 121.7% jump in prices.

Travellers faced price increases of 7.3% for accommodation, as many hotels introduced their summer rates.

The impact of higher taxes on cigarettes continued into May; prices rose 3.3% compared with April. On April 6, a combined federal-provincial tax of \$4 per carton was introduced in Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario. Manitoba also saw an increase because of a rise in the provincial tobacco tax effective April 10. While the bulk of these tax increases were put in place in mid-April, the effect on the index continued in May.

Fresh fruit prices gained 4.5% in May, after rising 7.7% in April, largely on the strength of prices for oranges and for the other fresh fruit category. Orange prices increased 14.5% mainly because of the end of the season for certain orange crops and smaller-than-expected incoming crops. The index for the other fresh fruit category rose 2.8% in May from April because of lower production.

Prices for the homeowner's maintenance and repairs category increased 2.1% between April and May, primarily pushed up by higher material prices. The upward price pressure was felt the most in Manitoba (+5.4%).

Women's clothing prices continued to drop in May (-4.0%), after falling 2.7% in April. May's drop was due to a proliferation of seasonal sales in most categories. Prices for men's clothing fell 0.9%. Seasonal sales for men's clothing were not as widespread, nor as important as for women's clothing.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 3260001, 3260003, 3260004 and 3260010 and matrices 9940-9956.**

Available at 7 a.m. on Statistics Canada's Web site ([www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)).

The May 2001 issue of the Consumer Price Index (62-001-XIB, \$8/\$77; 62-001-XPB, \$11/\$103) is now available. See *How to order products*.

June's Consumer Price Index will be released on July 20.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, call (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; [infounit@statcan.ca](mailto:infounit@statcan.ca)) or Joanne Moreau (613-951-7130), Prices Division. □

**Consumer Price Index and major components**  
(1992=100)

	May 2001	April 2001	May 2000	April to May 2001	May 2000 to May 2001
Not seasonally adjusted					
	% change				
<b>All-items</b>	<b>117.4</b>	<b>116.4</b>	<b>113.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>3.9</b>
Food	117.9	117.0	112.1	0.8	5.2
Shelter	113.8	112.5	107.8	1.2	5.6
Household operations and furnishings	112.2	112.0	109.6	0.2	2.4
Clothing and footwear	104.9	106.5	104.7	-1.5	0.2
Transportation	134.0	132.1	129.9	1.4	3.2
Health and personal care	114.4	114.0	112.1	0.4	2.1
Recreation, education and reading	125.3	123.9	122.7	1.1	2.1
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	105.2	103.3	97.4	1.8	8.0
All-items (1986=100)	150.4				
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared to 1992	85.2	85.9	88.5		
<b>Special aggregates</b>					
Goods	116.2	114.7	110.3	1.3	5.3
Services	119.0	118.5	116.1	0.4	2.5
All-items excluding food and energy	114.3	113.9	111.9	0.4	2.1
Energy	143.5	136.4	123.7	5.2	16.0
All-items excluding the eight most volatile components <sup>1</sup>	117.3	117.0	114.7	0.3	2.3

<sup>1</sup> Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain its measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes.

**The Consumer Price Index by province, Whitehorse and Yellowknife**  
(1992=100)

	May 2001	April 2001	May 2000	April to May 2001	May 2000 to May 2001
Not seasonally adjusted					
	% change				
Newfoundland	115.6	113.6	112.2	1.8	3.0
Prince Edward Island	115.0	114.6	111.5	0.3	3.1
Nova Scotia	117.0	116.5	113.5	0.4	3.1
New Brunswick	115.8	114.8	112.3	0.9	3.1
Quebec	114.3	113.8	110.1	0.4	3.8
Ontario	118.5	117.9	113.7	0.5	4.2
Manitoba	122.1	121.0	117.3	0.9	4.1
Saskatchewan	120.4	119.2	116.2	1.0	3.6
Alberta	123.2	118.9	116.6	3.6	5.7
British Columbia	115.6	115.0	112.8	0.5	2.5
Whitehorse	116.9	116.3	114.3	0.5	2.3
Yellowknife	112.8	112.2	111.2	0.5	1.4

## OTHER RELEASES

### Inter-corporate ownership

Second quarter 2001

A ranking of ownership of the largest Canadian corporations by foreign enterprises shows that more than 13,000 corporations based in Canada are controlled by foreign interests. Analyses of data from the inter-corporate ownership database show that U.S. interests control 6,966 corporations, interests from the European Union, 3,761, and Pacific Rim countries, 1,450. The foremost EU participants are the United Kingdom (1,206), Germany (936) and France (687). These three countries account for 75% of all EU-controlled Canadian corporations.

The inter-corporate ownership database tracks the ownership of the largest Canadian corporations and provides up-to-date information reflecting recent corporate mergers and takeovers and other substantial changes. Ultimate corporate control was determined by careful study of holdings of corporations, the effects of options, insider holdings, convertible shares and interlocking directorships. This information is based on non-confidential returns filed by Canadian corporations under the *Corporations Returns Act*. The database, which now lists more than 85,000 corporations, is a unique database of "who owns whom" in Canada. It contains the legal corporate name(s), the country of control, the Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) code, the province of the head office, the enterprise parent name and the percentage of voting rights owned. Users can search, sort, evaluate and download data by company name, company types, SIC, province or country of ownership, and more. It also allows the user to cross-tabulate a search by selecting a number of companies in a particular SIC and cross-tabulating by province of residence, country of control, or other variables.

### Summary of foreign ownership by number of corporations

	Country or region	Number of corporations controlled
1	United States	6,966
2	European Union	3,761
3	Pacific Rim	1,450
4	Other countries	1,128
<b>Total</b>		<b>13,305</b>

### European Union foreign ownership by country

	EU Country	Number of corporations controlled
1	United Kingdom	1,206
2	Germany	936
3	France	687
4	Netherlands	404
5	Italy	131
6	Sweden	86
7	Belgium	82
8	Finland	60
9	Denmark	45
10	Other EU countries	124
<b>Total</b>		<b>3,761</b>

*Inter-corporate ownership on CD-ROM* (61-517-XCB) is now available. An annual subscription with quarterly updates is \$995; a single copy without updates is \$350. The *Inter-corporate ownership 2000 directory* is also available (61-517-XPB, \$350). See *How to order products*.

For data or general information, contact Jeannine D'Angelo (613-951-2604), Client Services Unit. For other information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Steve Dufour (613-951-2651), Industrial Organization and Finance Division. ■

### Steel primary forms

April 2001

Steel primary forms production totalled 1 235 440 metric tonnes in April, down 7.2% from 1 330 903 tonnes in April 2000.

Year-to-date production to the end of April reached 4 826 792 tonnes, down 15.3% from 5 699 507 tonnes in the same period of 2000.

### Available on CANSIM: table 3030010 and matrix 58 (level 2, series 3)

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](mailto:milsomg@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

### Shipments of rolled steel

April 2001

Rolled steel shipments totalled 1 139 427 metric tonnes in April, down 9.1% from 1 253 649 tonnes in March and down 3.5% from 1 180 261 tonnes in April 2000.

Year-to-date shipments to the end of April totalled 4 697 172 tonnes, down 8.9% from 5 153 720 tonnes in the same period of 2000.

**Available on CANSIM: table 3030010 and matrices 58 and 122 (series 22-25).**

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](mailto:milsomg@statcan.ca)), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

### **Fruit and vegetable production**

2001 and 2000 (revised)

The most recent data on 2001 growing intentions and 2000 revised area, production and value data for fruits and vegetables are now available.

**Available on CANSIM: tables 10009 and 10013; matrices 1371, 1372, 1375-1380, 1383-1389, 1392, 1393, 1395, 1399, 1401-1405, 1407, 5614 and 5615.**

These data will appear soon in the June 2001 issue of *Fruit and vegetable production* (22-003-XIB, \$23/\$46) which is published twice a year, in June and February. A print-on-demand service is also available at a different price. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release,

contact Bill Parsons (613-951-8727), Agriculture Division. ■

### **Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics public-use microdata file**

1998

The cross-sectional public-use microdata file for the 1998 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) is now available. The production of this file includes many safeguards to prevent the identification of any one person.

Up to 1997, the Survey of Consumer Finances (SCF) provided public-use microdata files to meet the needs of users of cross-sectional household income data. With this release, Statistics Canada is continuing the transition from SCF to SLID as the source of detailed cross-sectional household income data.

The *Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics public-use microdata file* on CD-ROM (75M0010XCB, \$2,000) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information about the survey and related products and services, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (1-888-297-7355; 613-951-7355; fax: 613-951-3012; [income@statcan.ca](mailto:income@statcan.ca)), Income Statistics Division. ■

## NEW PRODUCTS

**Infomat — A weekly review**, June 15, 2001  
Catalogue number **11-002-XIE** (\$3/\$109).

**Infomat — A weekly review**, June 15, 2001  
Catalogue number **11-002-XPE** (\$4/\$145).

**Primary iron and steel**, April 2001, Vol. 56, no. 4  
Catalogue number **41-001-XIB** (\$5/\$47).

**Inter-corporate ownership**, Second quarter 2001  
Catalogue number **61-517-XCB** (\$350/\$995).

**Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics public-use microdata file**, 1998  
Catalogue number **75M0010XCB** (\$2,000).

**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

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Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 3, 1997  
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**MAJOR RELEASES**

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2  
Discusses the conditions on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about six 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 noticeably weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

**OTHER RELEASES**

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- **Short-term Expectations Survey** 3
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### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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*The Daily, June 15, 2001*

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**RELEASE DATES: JUNE 18 TO 22**

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(Release dates are subject to change.)

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<b>Release date</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Reference period</b>
18	<b>Monthly Survey of Manufacturing</b>	April 2001
19	<b>Travel between Canada and other countries</b>	April 2001
20	<b>Wholesale trade</b>	April 2001
20	<b>Composite Index</b>	May 2001
21	<b>Canadian international merchandise trade</b>	April 2001
21	<b>Retail trade</b>	April 2001
21	<b>Employment Insurance</b>	April 2001
22	<b>Demographic situation in Canada</b>	

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