

Wednesday, July 25, 2001
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## MAJOR RELEASES

- Composite Index, June 2001

The leading indicator edged up $0.1 \%$ in June, after no change in April and a $0.1 \%$ decline in May.

## OTHER RELEASES

Monthly Survey of Large Retailers, May 2001

## MAJOR RELEASES

## Composite Index

 June 2001The leading indicator edged up $0.1 \%$ in June, after no change in April and a $0.1 \%$ decline in May. This marked the first increase since December 2000 (a gain in the preliminary estimate for February was quickly revised to a loss). The increase originated in continued strength in housing together with an upturn in the U.S. leading index, whereas the stock market slumped and manufacturing remained weak. Overall, three components fell, two fewer than in May.


Household demand for big-ticket items remained the most buoyant sector of the economy, as real incomes were boosted by tax cuts and lower gasoline prices. The housing index posted a third straight increase in June; housing starts rose after vacancy rates in May touched a low for the year, while existing home sales set a new record high in June. Spending on furniture and appliances and other durable goods remained strong.

As in Canada, the U.S. leading indicator turned up; a $0.2 \%$ gain followed nearly a year of declines. The gain largely reflected the impact of a loosening of monetary policy on the money supply and the yield curve.

In Canada, manufacturing shipments firmed up, but not enough to offset another increase in inventories, and their ratio continued to slide. The trend of new orders remained negative. Demand for services was unchanged, after posting its first decline in two years in May.

## Available on CANSIM: table 3770003 and matrix 193.

For more information on the economy, the July 2001 issue of Canadian economic observer (11-010-XPB, \$23/\$227) 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 Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Economic Analysis Group.

The Daily, July 25, 2001

## Composite Index

|  | January 2001 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { February } \\ 0001 \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \hline \text { March } \\ 2001 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { April } \\ & 2001 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{array}{r} \text { May } \\ 2001 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { June } \\ & 2001 \end{aligned}$ | Last month of data available |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  | \% change |
| Composite leading indicator (1992=100) | 166.7 | 166.5 | 166.2 | 166.2 | 166.1 | 166.3 | 0.1 |
| Housing index (1992=100) ${ }^{1}$ | 102.0 | 103.0 | 102.9 | 103.9 | 106.4 | 107.3 | 0.8 |
| Business and personal services employment ('000) | 2,495 | 2,500 | 2,501 | 2,504 | 2,502 | 2,503 | 0.0 |
| TSE 300 stock price index ( $1975=1,000$ ) | 9,419 | 8,959 | 8,552 | 8,378 | 8,223 | 7,906 | -3.9 |
| Money supply, M1 (\$ millions, 1992) ${ }^{2}$ | 94,240 | 94,953 | 95,544 | 96,359 | 96,407 | 96,970 | 0.6 |
| U.S. composite leading indicator $(1992=100)^{3}$ | 107.6 | 107.5 | 107.3 | 107.1 | 107.0 | 107.2 | 0.2 |
| Manufacturing |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Average work week (hours) | 38.8 | 38.8 | 38.9 | 38.9 | 39.0 | 39.0 | 0.0 |
| New orders, durables (\$ millions, 1992) ${ }^{4}$ | 23,485 | 23,169 | 22,829 | 22,881 | 22,547 | 22,061 | -2.2 |
| Shipments/inventories of finished goods ${ }^{4}$ | 1.86 | 1.85 | 1.83 | 1.81 | 1.78 | 1.77 | $-0.01^{5}$ |
| Retail trade |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Furniture and appliance sales (\$ millions, 1992) ${ }^{4}$ | 1,537 | 1,545 | 1,568 | 1,582 | 1,599 | 1,610 | 0.7 |
| Other durable goods sales (\$ millions, 1992) ${ }^{4}$ | 7,097 | 7,075 | 7,082 | 7,070 | 7,099 | 7,169 | 1.0 |
| Unsmoothed composite | 166.3 | 167.2 | 165.9 | 165.5 | 165.8 | 167.1 | 0.8 |

[^0]
## OTHER RELEASES

## Monthly Survey of Large Retailers <br> May 2001

Sales by the group of large retailers totalled $\$ 6.8$ billion in May, an $8.9 \%$ increase over May 2000. Each commodity group recorded a year-over-year sales increase in May. The largest gains were posted for health and personal care products, hardware, lawn and garden products, and sporting and leisure goods. (All data in this release are unadjusted for seasonality.)

Sales by commodity for the group of large retailers


The health and personal care products category posted the largest year-over-year sales gain for the group in May compared with May 2000 (+15.1\%). Within this category, drug sales (which also include vitamins and herbal remedies) were up $19.1 \%$. The continued growth in drug sales can be attributed largely to the continued expansion of department and grocery stores into areas traditionally associated with drug stores. Grocery and department stores accounted for more than $80 \%$ of May's increase in drug sales by the group of large retailers.

In May, hardware, the lawn and garden products category posted its largest advance, $13.6 \%$, since August 2000. As the weather made a swing towards summer, lawn and garden product sales rose $16.1 \%$. However, hardware and home renovation sales rose less sharply, by $7.5 \%$.

The sporting and leisure goods category posted the group's third largest percentage increase in May, $13.0 \%$. Sporting goods sales were particularly strong, increasing $21.4 \%$ over May 2000 and accounting for almost $82 \%$ of the sales increase in this category. However, leisure goods sales did not fare as well; for example, revenues from toy sales were up only $1.8 \%$ from May 2000.

## Available on CANSIM: table 800009 and matrix 2395.

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 Elton Cryderman (613-951-0669; elton.cryderman@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division.

## Annual Survey of Manufacturers 1999

The Annual Survey of Manufacturers provides information on more than 250 different industries. Data for the industries listed in the following tables are now available for Canada.

Available on CANSIM: table 3010003 and matrices 11683, 11684, 11718, 11719, 11727, 11728, 11732, 11733, 11736, 11747, 11748, 11751, 11752, 11758, 11759, 11761, 11762, 11841, 11842, 11847, 11849, 11850, 11857, 11858, 11862, 11863, 11936, 11954, 11978, 12016, 12023, 12037, 12038, 12046, 12047, 12058, 12078, 12085 and 12086.

Data for the industries listed in the table will appear in Manufacturing industries of Canada: National and provincial areas (31-203-XPB, \$68). Research papers on manufacturing are available on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca). From the Our products and services page, choose Research papers (free), then Manufacturing.

To order data, for general information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact the Dissemination Officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

## Value of shipments



## NEW PRODUCTS

Electric power generation, transmission and distribution, 1999
Catalogue number 57-202-XPB (\$30).
Retail trade, May 2001
Catalogue number 63-005-XIB (\$16/\$155).
Retail trade, May 2001
Catalogue number 63-005-XPB (\$21/\$206).
Canadian international merchandise trade, May 2001
Catalogue number 65-001-XIB (\$14/\$141).
Canadian international merchandise trade, May 2001
Catalogue number 65-001-XPB (\$19/\$188).

Travel-log, Summer 2001, Vol. 20, no. 3
Catalogue number 87-003-XIE (\$5/\$16).
Travel-log, Summer 2001, Vol. 20, no. 3
Catalogue number 87-003-XPB (\$13/\$42).
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.

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## Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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[^0]:    Composite index of housing starts (units) and house sales (multiple listing service).
    Deflated by the Consumer Price Index for all items.
    The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the month immediately preceding.
    The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for two preceding months.
    Difference from previous month.

