



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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NEW PRODUCTS



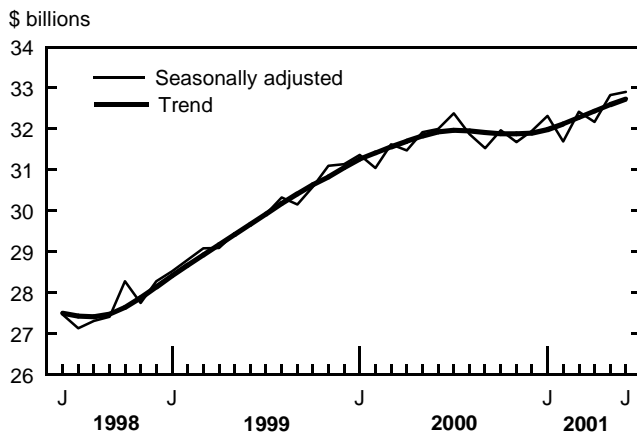
MAJOR RELEASES

Wholesale trade

June 2001 (preliminary)

Mainly as a result of strong sales in the automotive sector, wholesalers saw their sales rise a modest 0.2% in June. That followed a 2.0% increase in May. If not for the sales reported by wholesalers of motor vehicles, parts and accessories, June sales would have fallen 0.5%. Declines were reported in 5 of 11 wholesale sectors — 5 sectors that account for approximately 51% of total wholesale activity.

Wholesale sales take a small step forward



Nevertheless, as a result of the two consecutive monthly increases, wholesalers on balance also saw a second consecutive quarterly rise in sales, up 1.5% over the previous quarter. In general, wholesale sales have been rising in 2001 after levelling out during the latter half of last year. Prior to that, wholesale sales had been climbing since mid-1998.

Wholesale sales rose to \$32.9 billion in June. Apart from the strong wholesale sales in the automotive sector (+3.7%), notable increases were also reported in the wholesaling of farm machinery and equipment (+4.2%), of beverage, drug and tobacco products (+2.0%), and of apparel and dry goods (+2.0%).

A notable decline was again observed in the wholesaling of computers and other electronic products, down 3.8%. As well, there was a notable 2.4% drop in the wholesaling of industrial machinery and equipment.

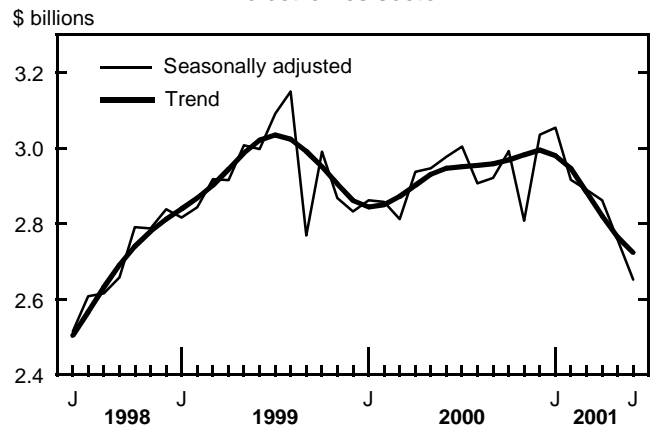
Automotive wholesalers the source of strength

As a result of strong imports and exports, wholesale sales of automotive products rose 3.7% in June. Despite a relatively volatile beginning to the year, wholesalers in this sector have gained some stability to report their second consecutive month of strong sales. The last time that this sector reported back-to-back monthly increases was at the start of 2000, just prior to the slowdown that resulted in generally falling sales by the spring of that year. Sales in this sector have been generally rising since the start of 2001. Among all wholesalers, this sector reported the highest growth in the second quarter, up 6.7%.

Woes continue for computer and other electronics wholesalers

Lack of sales was once again evident in June for the wholesaling of computers and other electronics, down 3.8%. This was the fifth consecutive monthly decline for this sector. As a result, wholesale sales have fallen sharply since the start of 2001 despite having generally risen during 2000. Wholesale sales in this sector have eroded to September 1998 levels.

2001 sees a sharp decline in wholesale sales in electronics sector



Increases limited to three provinces

Among the provinces, sales increases were limited to three; Alberta (+1.7%), Ontario (+0.8%), and Newfoundland (+0.4%). All other provinces reported sales declines.

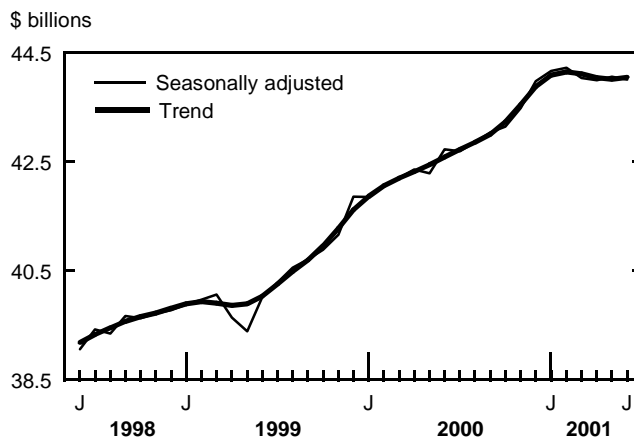
Sectors of strength varied by province. Not surprisingly, Ontario benefited from the strong wholesale sales in the automotive sector. Wholesalers in Alberta and Newfoundland reported healthier sales in the industrial machinery sector and in the hardware, plumbing and heating sector; despite the fact that these areas reported weaker sales nationally.

Seven months of relative stability in wholesale inventories

Wholesale inventories remained relatively unchanged at \$44.0 billion for a seventh consecutive month (-0.1%). Inventory levels have been at a plateau during all of 2001. Prior to this, inventories were climbing over the past several years.

The June inventory-to-sales ratio remained unchanged from May at 1.34. This is somewhat below the levels recorded earlier in the year.

Wholesale inventories at a plateau during 2001



Available on CANSIM: tables 810001 and 810002 and matrices 59, 61, 648 and 649.

The June 2001 issue of *Wholesale trade* (63-008-XIB, \$14/\$140) will be available shortly. See *How to order products*.

Wholesale trade estimates for July will be released on September 20.

To order data, or for general information, contact Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; wholesaleinfo@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Alexander Hays (613-951-3552; haysale@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division. □

Wholesale merchants' sales and inventories

	June 2000	March 2001 ^r	April 2001 ^r	May 2001 ^r	June 2001 ^p	May to June 2001	June 2000 to June 2001
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions					% change	
Sales, all trade groups	31,996	32,417	32,168	32,822	32,903	0.2	2.8
Food products	4,864	5,167	5,220	5,298	5,315	0.3	9.3
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	2,058	2,307	2,229	2,230	2,275	2.0	10.6
Apparel and dry goods	545	544	559	570	582	2.0	6.8
Household goods	846	904	898	916	920	0.4	8.7
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	6,264	5,948	5,859	6,113	6,339	3.7	1.2
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	2,091	2,039	2,002	2,024	2,013	-0.5	-3.7
Lumber and building materials	2,368	2,317	2,311	2,441	2,440	-0.1	3.1
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	605	641	612	664	692	4.2	14.3
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	4,976	5,190	5,076	5,153	5,029	-2.4	1.1
Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery	2,977	2,890	2,862	2,758	2,652	-3.8	-10.9
Other products	4,403	4,470	4,540	4,655	4,647	-0.2	5.6
Sales by province and territory							
Newfoundland	220	230	213	213	214	0.4	-2.5
Prince Edward Island	53	49	52	65	60	-7.2	14.3
Nova Scotia	571	557	563	566	565	-0.2	-1.1
New Brunswick	403	400	385	427	412	-3.4	2.2
Quebec	6,499	6,626	6,598	6,661	6,651	-0.1	2.3
Ontario	16,198	16,061	15,972	16,224	16,353	0.8	1.0
Manitoba	868	955	888	956	953	-0.2	9.9
Saskatchewan	887	1,012	1,059	1,206	1,170	-3.0	31.9
Alberta	3,041	3,261	3,225	3,264	3,318	1.7	9.1
British Columbia	3,233	3,238	3,184	3,213	3,179	-1.1	-1.7
Yukon	9	9	10	11	10	-3.6	11.3
Northwest Territories	12	17	17	15	15	4.3	31.0
Nunavut	2	3	2	3	2	-42.1	-29.1
Inventories, all trade groups	42,726	44,035	43,998	44,062	44,010	-0.1	3.0
Food products	2,897	3,116	3,156	3,146	3,192	1.5	10.2
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	2,537	2,814	2,763	2,802	2,818	0.6	11.1
Apparel and dry goods	1,067	1,153	1,166	1,177	1,178	0.1	10.4
Household goods	1,543	1,664	1,665	1,697	1,649	-2.8	6.9
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	6,558	6,547	6,491	6,457	6,522	1.0	-0.6
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	3,978	3,833	3,831	3,779	3,777	-0.1	-5.1
Lumber and building materials	3,968	4,054	4,034	4,062	4,140	1.9	4.3
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	1,960	1,856	1,881	1,873	1,836	-2.0	-6.3
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	10,482	11,090	11,108	11,156	11,069	-0.8	5.6
Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery	2,409	2,268	2,201	2,164	2,007	-7.3	-16.7
Other products	5,326	5,641	5,702	5,748	5,823	1.3	9.3

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

OTHER RELEASES

Stocks of frozen poultry meat

August 1, 2001 (preliminary)

The amount of frozen poultry meat in cold storage on August 1, 2001 stood at 79.6 thousand tonnes, up 14.9% from a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: tables 30023-30024 and matrices 5675-5677.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandy Gielfeldt (613-951-2505; sandy.gielfeldt@statcan.ca) or Robert Plourde (613-951-8716; robert.plourde@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Pulpwood and wood residue statistics

June 2001

Pulpwood receipts in June totalled 1 881 089 cubic metres, down 9.5% from 2 077 507 cubic metres in June 2000. Wood residue receipts fell 3.4%, from 7 463 376 cubic metres in June 2000 to 7 212 495 cubic metres in June 2001. Consumption of pulpwood and wood residue totalled 8 843 732 cubic metres, down 4.7% from 9 276 135 cubic metres in June 2000.

In June, the closing inventory of pulpwood and wood residue increased 4.2% to 14 165 142 cubic metres, up from 13 595 622 cubic metres in June 2000. For January to June 2001, year-to-date consumption of pulpwood and wood residue (58 275 017 cubic metres) decreased 1.1% from 58 915 340 cubic metres a year earlier.

The 2000 data have been revised.

Available on CANSIM: table 3030008 and matrix 54 .

The June 2001 (Vol. 44, no. 6) issue of *Pulpwood and wood residue statistics* (25-001-XIB, \$6/\$55) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods, and data quality of this release, contact Sara Breen (613-951-3521; sara.breen@statcan.ca). For general information, or to order data, contact the Dissemination Officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins

June 2001

In June, chemical firms produced 210 552 metric tonnes of polyethylene synthetic resins, a 3.2% decrease from 217 470 tonnes in June 2000.

Year-to-date production at the end of this June totalled 1 300 290 tonnes (revised), down 2.9% from 1 339 116 tonnes produced a year earlier.

Data are also available on the production of 3 other types of synthetic resins and 24 industrial chemicals.

Available on CANSIM: table 3030014 and matrix 951.

The June 2001 (Vol. 44, no. 6) issue of *Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins* (46-002-XIB, \$5/47) is now available. See *How to order products*.

To enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Josée Perreault (613-951-9836; josee.perreault@statcan.ca). For general information, or to order data, contact the Dissemination Officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Pulpwood and wood residue statistics,
June 2001 (Vol. 44, no. 6)
Catalogue number 25-001-XIB (\$6/\$55).

Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins,
June 2001 (Vol. 44, no. 6)
Catalogue number 46-002-XIB (\$5/\$47).

The Consumer Price Index, July 2001
Catalogue number 62-001-XIB (\$8/\$77).
Available at 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 21.

The Consumer Price Index, July 2001
Catalogue number 62-001-XPB (\$11/\$103).
Available at 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 21.

Imports by commodity, June 2001
Catalogue number 65-007-XMB (\$37/\$361).

Imports by commodity, June 2001
Catalogue number 65-007-XPB (\$78/\$773).

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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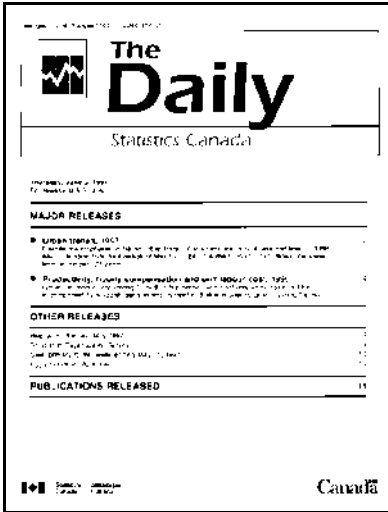
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