



# The Daily

Statistics Canada

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## MAJOR RELEASES

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- **Composite Index, August 2001** 2  
The leading indicator was flat in August for the second month in a row, after generally declining in the first half of 2001. Three of the four components that rose were related to household demand.

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**MAJOR RELEASES**

**Composite Index**

August 2001

The leading indicator was flat in August for the second month in a row, after generally declining in the first half of 2001. Three of the four components that rose were related to household demand. Manufacturing continued to contract, as did business services.

The housing index returned to the positive trend it has shown most of the year. Housing starts rebounded in August, regaining almost all of the ground lost in July. The strength came from multiple units, for which vacancy rates are very low in several large cities. Elsewhere, spending on durable goods was restrained by the slack in incomes and labour market conditions. Spending on both furniture and appliances and other durable goods slowed further.

The weakness in the business sector worsened. For manufacturers, new orders continued to be dragged down by the collapse of demand for electronic products, which also pulled down shipments and their ratio to inventories (the latter to its lowest level since 1993). The slack in business spending was reflected in a third straight drop for employment in business services, which was one of the pillars of growth in 2000. The stock market also continued to tumble.

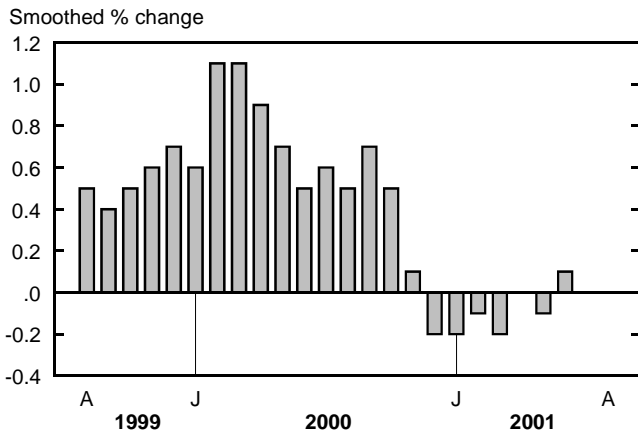
The U.S. leading indicator posted a third straight gain (+0.2%). However, the sources of growth remained narrow, even before the impact of the terrorist attack in September. Industrial production fell 0.8% in August, the largest of 11 straight declines.

**Available on CANSIM: table 3770003.**

For more information on the economy, the September 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. □

**Composite Index**



## Composite Index

	March 2001	April 2001	May 2001	June 2001	July 2001	August 2001	Last month of data available % change
<b>Composite leading indicator (1992=100)</b>	<b>166.2</b>	<b>166.2</b>	<b>166.0</b>	<b>166.1</b>	<b>166.1</b>	<b>166.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>
Housing index (1992=100) <sup>1</sup>	102.9	103.9	106.4	107.5	107.5	109.2	1.6
Business and personal services employment ('000)	2,500	2,503	2,501	2,500	2,493	2,485	-0.3
TSE 300 stock price index (1975=1,000)	8,552	8,378	8,223	7,906	7,829	7,787	-0.5
Money supply, M1 (\$ millions, 1992) <sup>2</sup>	95,551	96,355	96,390	96,929	96,929	96,800	-0.1
U.S. composite leading indicator (1992=100) <sup>3</sup>	107.3	107.1	107.0	107.2	107.3	107.5	0.2
<b>Manufacturing</b>							
Average work week (hours)	38.9	38.9	38.9	38.9	38.9	38.9	0.0
New orders, durables (\$ millions, 1992) <sup>4</sup>	22,850	22,952	22,612	22,319	22,059	21,879	-0.8
Shipments/inventories of finished goods <sup>4</sup>	1.83	1.81	1.78	1.76	1.74	1.72	-0.02 <sup>5</sup>
<b>Retail trade</b>							
Furniture and appliance sales (\$ millions, 1992) <sup>4</sup>	1,568	1,581	1,599	1,612	1,618	1,620	0.1
Other durable goods sales (\$ millions, 1992) <sup>4</sup>	7,082	7,072	7,102	7,176	7,227	7,245	0.2
Unsmoothed composite	165.9	165.5	165.2	166.7	167.0	166.2	-0.5

<sup>1</sup> Composite index of housing starts (units) and house sales (multiple listing service).

<sup>2</sup> Deflated by the Consumer Price Index for all items.

<sup>3</sup> The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the month immediately preceding.

<sup>4</sup> The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for two preceding months.

<sup>5</sup> Difference from previous month.



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## OTHER RELEASES

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### Employment, earnings and hours

July 2001 (preliminary)

Average weekly earnings for all employees rose \$2.99 in July to \$665.41. On a year-over-year basis, average weekly earnings were up 1.6% from July 2000.

In most provinces, average weekly earnings were slightly higher than in July 2000. The exception was Alberta, where earnings growth of 3.0% reflected strength in wholesale trade, health care and social assistance, accommodation and food services, and professional, scientific and technical services.

Average hourly earnings for hourly paid employees were \$16.89 in July, up 17 cents from June and up 1.4% from July 2000. Average weekly hours for hourly paid employees were down 0.1 to 31.3 hours compared with June, and average overtime hours were virtually unchanged.

The number of employees on payrolls fell by 13,700 in July from June. The largest employment losses were in wholesale trade (-6,100) and public administration, reflecting a further reduction of 3,000 census employees. Most provinces posted small employment losses.

**Note:** With the January 2001 data, the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours began publishing 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. To aid this transition, a NAICS-based historical database from January 1991 to December 2000 has been produced. A concordance table between NAICS and SIC codes is available on request. A description of the conversion process and its impact on the data is also available in the January 2001 issue of *Employment, earnings and hours* (72-002XIB, \$24/\$240) or may be obtained from Jean Leduc (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-2869; [labour@statcan.ca](mailto:labour@statcan.ca)). For more information on the NAICS consult the *Statistical methods* page on Statistics Canada's Web site ([www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)).

**Available on CANSIM: tables 2810023-2810040.**

Detailed industry data and other labour market indicators will be available in October in standard tables in the monthly publication *Employment, earnings and hours* (72-002-XIB, \$24/\$240). Annual averages for 2000 are now available on CANSIM and by custom tabulations from the 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 Robert Frindt or Jean Leduc (1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-2869; [labour@statcan.ca](mailto:labour@statcan.ca)), Labour Statistics Division. □

**Average weekly earnings for all employees**

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	July 2000	June 2001 <sup>r</sup>	July 2001 <sup>p</sup>	June to July 2001	July 2000 to July 2001
	Seasonally adjusted				
	\$			% change	
<b>Industrial aggregate</b>	<b>655.18</b>	<b>662.42</b>	<b>665.41</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Forestry, logging and support	803.13	826.49	828.99	0.3	3.2
Mining and oil and gas	1,153.47	1,149.35	1,149.20	0.0	-0.4
Utilities	998.41	998.70	1,000.74	0.2	0.2
Construction	804.68	796.13	799.56	0.4	-0.6
Manufacturing	799.09	806.50	808.73	0.3	1.2
Wholesale trade	758.88	768.77	773.68	0.6	2.0
Retail trade	419.80	426.82	427.68	0.2	1.9
Transportation and warehousing	728.33	738.54	738.97	0.1	1.5
Information and cultural industries	765.37	788.22	792.08	0.5	3.5
Finance and insurance	834.64	841.59	850.67	1.1	1.9
Real estate and rental and leasing	600.97	599.36	596.24	-0.5	-0.8
Professional, scientific and technical services	860.52	884.47	891.98	0.8	3.7
Management of companies and enterprises	819.26	839.12	839.62	0.1	2.5
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	517.50	530.30	531.01	0.1	2.6
Educational services	690.58	687.53	687.58	0.0	-0.4
Health care and social assistance	565.11	580.46	582.97	0.4	3.2
Arts, entertainment and recreation	465.78	482.20	483.03	0.2	3.7
Accommodation and food services	270.33	284.41	284.77	0.1	5.3
Other services (excluding public administration)	504.43	518.55	520.50	0.4	3.2
Public administration	747.44	754.31	757.98	0.5	1.4
<b>Provinces and territories</b>					
Newfoundland	593.47	599.39	599.18	0.0	1.0
Prince Edward Island	517.57	521.41	522.27	0.2	0.9
Nova Scotia	559.57	562.83	564.25	0.3	0.8
New Brunswick	586.03	587.74	592.64	0.8	1.1
Quebec	613.11	620.98	622.72	0.3	1.6
Ontario	700.97	709.33	712.17	0.4	1.6
Manitoba	591.20	595.03	598.46	0.6	1.2
Saskatchewan	588.40	591.79	597.81	1.0	1.6
Alberta	668.95	680.84	688.71	1.2	3.0
British Columbia	656.75	662.77	664.62	0.3	1.2
Yukon	755.91	749.89	755.54	0.8	0.0
Northwest Territories <sup>1</sup>	..	856.25	857.03	0.1	..
Nunavut <sup>1</sup>	..	773.20	778.67	0.7	..

<sup>r</sup> Revised estimates.  
<sup>p</sup> Preliminary estimates.  
<sup>1</sup> Data not seasonally adjusted.  
 .. Data not available.

## Number of employees

Industry group (North American Industry Classification System)	May 2001	June 2001 <sup>r</sup>	July 2001 <sup>p</sup>	May to June 2001	June to July 2001
	Seasonally adjusted				
	'000			% change	
<b>Industrial aggregate</b>	<b>12,788</b>	<b>12,767</b>	<b>12,754</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
Forestry, logging and support	79	78	77	-1.3	-1.3
Mining and oil and gas	140	138	138	-1.4	0.0
Utilities	112	112	112	0.0	0.0
Construction	570	575	575	0.9	0.0
Manufacturing	2,046	2,038	2,043	-0.4	0.2
Wholesale trade	730	731	725	0.1	-0.8
Retail trade	1,487	1,487	1,488	0.0	0.1
Transportation and warehousing	613	609	609	-0.7	0.0
Information and cultural industries	342	342	343	0.0	0.3
Finance and insurance	559	557	557	-0.4	0.0
Real estate and rental and leasing	215	215	214	0.0	-0.5
Professional, scientific and technical services	646	646	644	0.0	-0.3
Management of companies and enterprises	82	82	83	0.0	1.2
Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	526	527	528	0.2	0.2
Educational services	941	945	944	0.4	-0.1
Health care and social assistance	1,241	1,245	1,243	0.3	-0.2
Arts, entertainment and recreation	222	220	219	-0.9	-0.5
Accommodation and food services	942	941	941	-0.1	0.0
Other services (excluding public administration)	473	473	472	0.0	-0.2
Public administration	753	718	713	-4.6	-0.7
<b>Provinces and territories</b>					
Newfoundland	179	177	174	-1.1	-1.7
Prince Edward Island	56	56	56	0.0	0.0
Nova Scotia	361	359	355	-0.6	-1.1
New Brunswick	293	290	288	-1.0	-0.7
Quebec	3,011	3,001	3,001	-0.3	0.0
Ontario	5,011	4,998	5,001	-0.3	0.1
Manitoba	499	500	499	0.2	-0.2
Saskatchewan	370	368	368	-0.5	0.0
Alberta	1,371	1,371	1,370	0.0	-0.1
British Columbia	1,598	1,594	1,591	-0.3	-0.2
Yukon	15	15	14	0.0	-6.7
Northwest Territories <sup>1</sup>	20	20	20	0.0	0.0
Nunavut <sup>1</sup>	10	10	9	0.0	-10.0

<sup>r</sup> Revised estimates.

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary estimates.

<sup>1</sup> Data not seasonally adjusted.

## NEW PRODUCTS

**Canada's balance of international payments, Vol. 49, no. 2, Second quarter 2001**  
Catalogue number **67-001-XIB** (\$29/\$93).

**Canada's balance of international payments, Vol. 49, no. 2, Second quarter 2001**  
Catalogue number **67-001-XPB** (\$38/\$124).

**All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.**

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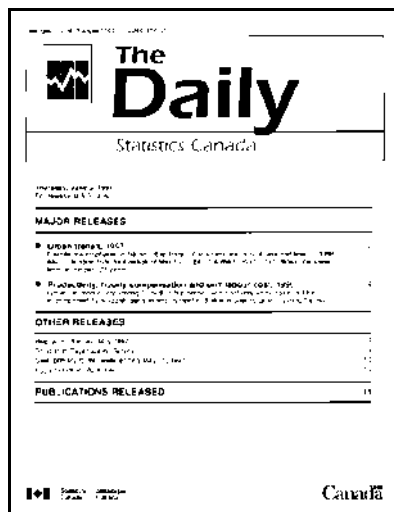
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