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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Labour Force Survey, November 2002** 3
 Employment rose by an estimated 42,000 in November, continuing the strong upward trend that began at the start of the year. So far in 2002, employment has increased by 502,000 or 3.3%. The unemployment rate declined in November by 0.1 percentage points to 7.5%.

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Vista on the agri-good industry and the farm community

December 2002

This issue of *Vista on the agri-food industry and the farm community* contains an article entitled "Genetically modified crops: Steady growth in Ontario and Quebec."

Since their introduction in the mid-1990s, genetically modified seeds have become increasingly popular among eastern Canadian corn and soybean producers who have used them to limit insect damage to crops, or to allow their crops to resist herbicides that would normally kill them.

For the past three years, Statistics Canada has collected data on genetically modified soybeans and corn in Quebec and Ontario. Data clearly show that seeded area, the number of producers and the production of genetically modified soybeans and corn are on the rise in both Quebec and Ontario.

Vista on the agri-food industry and the farm community (21-004-XIE, free) is now available on Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca). From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Agriculture*.

For more information, contact Martin Beaulieu (613-951-6357), Agriculture Division.



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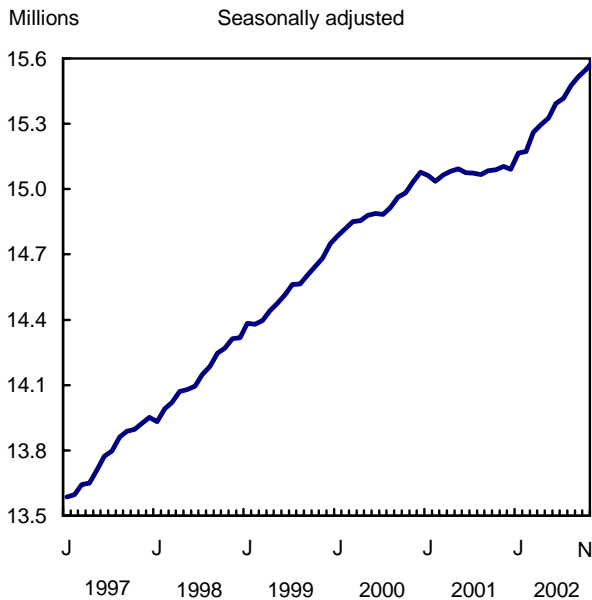
MAJOR RELEASES

Labour Force Survey

November 2002

Employment rose by an estimated 42,000 in November, continuing the strong upward trend that began at the start of the year. So far in 2002, employment has increased by 502,000 or 3.3%. The unemployment rate declined in November by 0.1 percentage points to 7.5%.

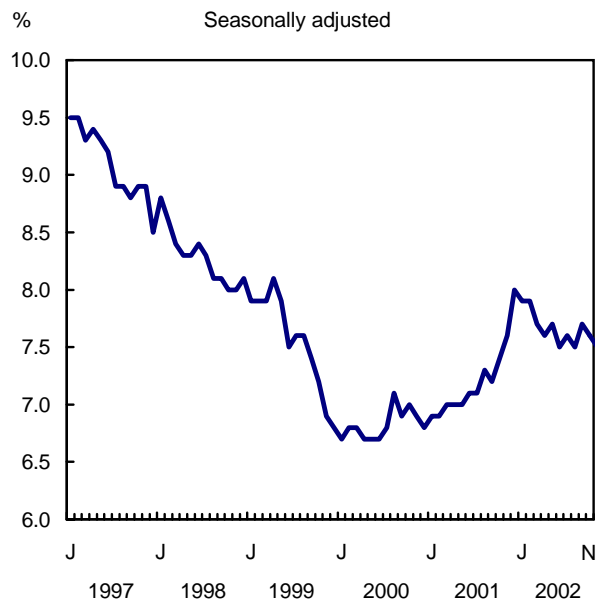
Employment



in manufacturing and construction. In November, the unemployment rate among adult men fell 0.2 percentage points to 6.5%.

Employment among youths increased slightly (+15,000), the result of a gain in full-time employment (+17,000). Job growth for youths has been strong throughout 2002, with year-to-date gains totalling 98,000 (+4.3%). In November, the youth unemployment rate declined 0.3 percentage points to 13.6%.

Unemployment rate



Rebound in full-time work and manufacturing

Full-time employment rose by 55,000 after edging down over the previous two months. So far in 2002, job growth has been particularly robust in part-time (+7.7%) but has also increased in full-time (+2.4%).

Employment in manufacturing rose by 33,000 in November, all in full-time. Employment in this industry is up 150,000 (+6.8%) so far in 2002, with the largest increases in food, computers and electronics as well as machinery manufacturing. In November, almost all the gains in manufacturing employment occurred in Quebec (+21,000) and Ontario (+10,000).

Job strength continued among adult men, with employment increasing 20,000 in November, the result of a gain in full-time work (+18,000). Since the start of 2002, employment among adult men is up 196,000 (+2.8%), with the largest increases

Among adult women, employment was little changed, as an increase in full-time jobs (+21,000) was partly offset by a decline in part-time (-14,000). Over the period from January to November, employment among adult women has increased by 208,000 (+3.5%), with the largest gains in health care and social assistance as well as manufacturing. In November, their unemployment rate edged up 0.1 percentage points to 6.1% because of a slight increase in labour force participation.

Increase in hours worked

The number of hours worked in the economy (514.9 million) rose 1.2%, as it rebounded from the 1.6% decrease in October. The decline in hours worked in October was primarily a result of an unusually large number of employees taking time off at Thanksgiving.

Fewer jobs in construction

Construction employment fell 16,000 in November, the first decline in seven months. Job gains so far in 2002 total 48,000 (+5.7%), reflecting strong consumer demand for housing. The decrease in November was in Quebec (-8,000), Alberta (-6,000) and British Columbia (-5,000).

In November, there was a slight increase in education services (+11,000), partly offsetting the decline in October. So far in 2002, employment in this industry is up by 59,000 (+6.1%).

More employees but fewer self-employed

The number of private sector employees rose by 57,000, the fourth consecutive monthly increase, bringing gains so far in 2002 to 280,000 (+2.8%).

The number of public sector employees increased by 17,000, offsetting most of the decline in October. There has been strength in public sector employment throughout 2002 with gains totalling 123,000 (+4.3%). Most of this increase has been in education services and health care and social assistance.

Self-employment fell by 31,000, partly offsetting the gain in October. Despite this decline, self-employment is up 99,000 (+4.3%) so far in 2002, spurred by growth in professional, scientific and technical services, agriculture and health care and social assistance.

Alberta leads job growth

In Alberta, employment increased by 16,000 with gains spread across a number of industries. So far in 2002, employment in the province is up 55,000 (+3.3%). In November, the increase in employment pushed the unemployment rate down 0.4 percentage points to 5.3%.

Employment edged up 13,000 in Ontario with gains in manufacturing and health care and social assistance. There were declines in management, administrative and other support services. Employment in the province is up 182,000 (+3.1%) so far in 2002, primarily because of strength in the second half of the year. The increase in employment in November combined with a decline in the number of persons in search of work pushed the unemployment rate down 0.5 percentage points to 6.7%.

Overall employment in Quebec increased slightly (+9,000), as a gain in full-time employment (+26,000) was partly offset by a decline in part-time. So far in 2002, employment in the province has increased by 137,000 (+3.9%) with most of the gains occurring in the first half of the year. In November, there was strong job growth in manufacturing (+21,000), but this was partly offset by declines in a number of other industries, most notably construction (-8,000) and professional, scientific and technical services (-8,000). The unemployment rate rose 0.5 percentage points to 8.6%, as more people entered the labour force in search of work.

Employment rose by 3,000 in Nova Scotia and is now just slightly above (+1.0%) the level at the end of 2001. The unemployment rate was unchanged at 9.5% as the gain in employment was matched by an increase in the number of people in the labour force.

In New Brunswick, employment edged up 2,000, bringing gains so far in 2002 to 12,000 (+3.6%). The unemployment rate declined 0.5 percentage points in November to 10.3%.

There was little change in employment for the other provinces in November.

Available on CANSIM: tables 282-0001 to 282-0094.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 3701.

Available at 7:00 am on Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca). From the home page, choose *Today's news releases from The Daily*, then *Latest Labour Force Survey*.

A more detailed summary, *Labour force information*, is available today for the week ending November 16 (71-001-XIE, \$8/\$78). See *How to order products*.

The next release of the *Labour Force Survey* will be on Friday, January 10, 2003.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; labour@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Geoff Bowlby (613-951-3325) or Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750), Labour Statistics Division. □

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

| | October 2002 | November 2002 | October to November 2002 | October 2002 | November 2002 | October to November 2002 |
|---------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Seasonally adjusted | | | | | | |
| | Labour force | | | Participation rate | | |
| | '000 | | % change | % | | change |
| Canada | 16,831.8 | 16,862.1 | 0.2 | 67.2 | 67.3 | 0.1 |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 258.6 | 257.0 | -0.6 | 58.9 | 58.6 | -0.3 |
| Prince Edward Island | 76.6 | 76.4 | -0.3 | 68.2 | 68.0 | -0.2 |
| Nova Scotia | 473.5 | 476.8 | 0.7 | 62.5 | 62.9 | 0.4 |
| New Brunswick | 388.8 | 389.3 | 0.1 | 63.9 | 64.0 | 0.1 |
| Quebec | 3,934.1 | 3,965.4 | 0.8 | 65.0 | 65.5 | 0.5 |
| Ontario | 6,613.7 | 6,595.6 | -0.3 | 68.3 | 68.0 | -0.3 |
| Manitoba | 600.9 | 602.6 | 0.3 | 69.5 | 69.7 | 0.2 |
| Saskatchewan | 519.8 | 522.1 | 0.4 | 68.6 | 68.9 | 0.3 |
| Alberta | 1,785.8 | 1,794.0 | 0.5 | 73.3 | 73.5 | 0.2 |
| British Columbia | 2,180.1 | 2,182.8 | 0.1 | 65.3 | 65.3 | 0.0 |
| | Employment | | | Employment rate | | |
| | '000 | | % change | % | | change |
| Canada | 15,549.5 | 15,591.8 | 0.3 | 62.1 | 62.2 | 0.1 |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 211.3 | 209.5 | -0.9 | 48.2 | 47.7 | -0.5 |
| Prince Edward Island | 67.6 | 67.7 | 0.1 | 60.2 | 60.2 | 0.0 |
| Nova Scotia | 428.5 | 431.6 | 0.7 | 56.6 | 57.0 | 0.4 |
| New Brunswick | 346.9 | 349.2 | 0.7 | 57.0 | 57.4 | 0.4 |
| Quebec | 3,614.3 | 3,623.7 | 0.3 | 59.8 | 59.9 | 0.1 |
| Ontario | 6,139.5 | 6,152.3 | 0.2 | 63.4 | 63.5 | 0.1 |
| Manitoba | 569.0 | 569.9 | 0.2 | 65.8 | 65.9 | 0.1 |
| Saskatchewan | 489.6 | 491.7 | 0.4 | 64.6 | 64.9 | 0.3 |
| Alberta | 1,683.2 | 1,698.9 | 0.9 | 69.1 | 69.6 | 0.5 |
| British Columbia | 1,999.6 | 1,997.3 | -0.1 | 59.9 | 59.8 | -0.1 |
| | Unemployment | | | Unemployment rate | | |
| | '000 | | % change | % | | change |
| Canada | 1,282.4 | 1,270.2 | -1.0 | 7.6 | 7.5 | -0.1 |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 47.2 | 47.5 | 0.6 | 18.3 | 18.5 | 0.2 |
| Prince Edward Island | 9.1 | 8.7 | -4.4 | 11.9 | 11.4 | -0.5 |
| Nova Scotia | 44.9 | 45.2 | 0.7 | 9.5 | 9.5 | 0.0 |
| New Brunswick | 41.9 | 40.1 | -4.3 | 10.8 | 10.3 | -0.5 |
| Quebec | 319.9 | 341.7 | 6.8 | 8.1 | 8.6 | 0.5 |
| Ontario | 474.2 | 443.4 | -6.5 | 7.2 | 6.7 | -0.5 |
| Manitoba | 31.8 | 32.7 | 2.8 | 5.3 | 5.4 | 0.1 |
| Saskatchewan | 30.1 | 30.4 | 1.0 | 5.8 | 5.8 | 0.0 |
| Alberta | 102.6 | 95.1 | -7.3 | 5.7 | 5.3 | -0.4 |
| British Columbia | 180.5 | 185.6 | 2.8 | 8.3 | 8.5 | 0.2 |

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Labour force characteristics for both sexes, aged 15 and over

| | November 2001 | November 2002 | November 2001 to November 2002 | November 2001 | November 2002 | November 2001 to November 2002 |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|--|--------------------|------------------|--|
| Unadjusted | | | | | | |
| | Labour force | | | Participation rate | | |
| | '000 | | % change | % | | change |
| Canada | 16,239.8 | 16,777.1 | 3.3 | 65.6 | 66.9 | 1.3 |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 249.3 | 253.6 | 1.7 | 56.8 | 57.8 | 1.0 |
| Prince Edward Island | 73.7 | 74.2 | 0.7 | 66.3 | 66.0 | -0.3 |
| Nova Scotia | 469.4 | 474.5 | 1.1 | 62.3 | 62.6 | 0.3 |
| New Brunswick | 375.8 | 385.8 | 2.7 | 62.0 | 63.4 | 1.4 |
| Quebec | 3,808.8 | 3,935.1 | 3.3 | 63.5 | 65.0 | 1.5 |
| Ontario | 6,379.0 | 6,581.0 | 3.2 | 67.0 | 67.9 | 0.9 |
| Manitoba | 589.4 | 598.3 | 1.5 | 68.3 | 69.2 | 0.9 |
| Saskatchewan | 490.4 | 516.6 | 5.3 | 64.5 | 68.2 | 3.7 |
| Alberta | 1,713.2 | 1,786.6 | 4.3 | 71.8 | 73.2 | 1.4 |
| British Columbia | 2,090.8 | 2,171.5 | 3.9 | 63.4 | 65.0 | 1.6 |
| | Employment | | | Employment rate | | |
| | '000 | | % change | % | | change |
| Canada | 15,082.9 | 15,580.4 | 3.3 | 61.0 | 62.2 | 1.2 |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 212.6 | 210.2 | -1.1 | 48.4 | 47.9 | -0.5 |
| Prince Edward Island | 64.1 | 65.1 | 1.6 | 57.7 | 57.9 | 0.2 |
| Nova Scotia | 428.6 | 432.2 | 0.8 | 56.9 | 57.1 | 0.2 |
| New Brunswick | 335.8 | 348.8 | 3.9 | 55.4 | 57.3 | 1.9 |
| Quebec | 3,481.0 | 3,606.0 | 3.6 | 58.0 | 59.6 | 1.6 |
| Ontario | 5,980.9 | 6,175.3 | 3.3 | 62.8 | 63.7 | 0.9 |
| Manitoba | 562.4 | 567.9 | 1.0 | 65.1 | 65.7 | 0.6 |
| Saskatchewan | 464.6 | 489.0 | 5.3 | 61.1 | 64.5 | 3.4 |
| Alberta | 1,637.2 | 1,698.0 | 3.7 | 68.6 | 69.6 | 1.0 |
| British Columbia | 1,915.7 | 1,987.9 | 3.8 | 58.1 | 59.5 | 1.4 |
| | Unemployment | | | Unemployment rate | | |
| | '000 | | % change | % | | change |
| Canada | 1,157.0 | 1,196.7 | 3.4 | 7.1 | 7.1 | 0.0 |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 36.7 | 43.4 | 18.3 | 14.7 | 17.1 | 2.4 |
| Prince Edward Island | 9.6 | 9.2 | -4.2 | 13.0 | 12.4 | -0.6 |
| Nova Scotia | 40.9 | 42.3 | 3.4 | 8.7 | 8.9 | 0.2 |
| New Brunswick | 40.0 | 37.0 | -7.5 | 10.6 | 9.6 | -1.0 |
| Quebec | 327.8 | 329.1 | 0.4 | 8.6 | 8.4 | -0.2 |
| Ontario | 398.2 | 405.7 | 1.9 | 6.2 | 6.2 | 0.0 |
| Manitoba | 27.0 | 30.4 | 12.6 | 4.6 | 5.1 | 0.5 |
| Saskatchewan | 25.8 | 27.6 | 7.0 | 5.3 | 5.3 | 0.0 |
| Alberta | 76.0 | 88.6 | 16.6 | 4.4 | 5.0 | 0.6 |
| British Columbia | 175.1 | 183.6 | 4.9 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 0.1 |

Note: Related CANSIM table 282-0087.

Employment by industry (based on NAICS) and class of worker for both sexes, aged 15 and over

| | October 2002 | November 2002 | October to November 2002 | November 2001 to November 2002 | October to November 2002 | November 2001 to November 2002 |
|---|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| Seasonally adjusted | | | | | | |
| | '000 | | | % change | | |
| All industries | 15,549.5 | 15,591.8 | 42.3 | 487.7 | 0.3 | 3.2 |
| Goods-producing sector | 3,997.3 | 4,020.8 | 23.5 | 216.9 | 0.6 | 5.7 |
| Agriculture | 352.7 | 355.5 | 2.8 | 33.2 | 0.8 | 10.3 |
| Forestry, fishing, mining, oil and gas | 267.6 | 268.8 | 1.2 | -21.9 | 0.4 | -7.5 |
| Utilities | 129.6 | 132.3 | 2.7 | 9.8 | 2.1 | 8.0 |
| Construction | 913.0 | 896.8 | -16.2 | 50.6 | -1.8 | 6.0 |
| Manufacturing | 2,334.4 | 2,367.5 | 33.1 | 145.3 | 1.4 | 6.5 |
| Services-producing sector | 11,552.2 | 11,571.0 | 18.8 | 270.9 | 0.2 | 2.4 |
| Trade | 2,426.1 | 2,426.9 | 0.8 | -20.6 | 0.0 | -0.8 |
| Transportation and warehousing | 772.7 | 772.0 | -0.7 | 21.5 | -0.1 | 2.9 |
| Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing | 904.6 | 900.1 | -4.5 | 30.7 | -0.5 | 3.5 |
| Professional, scientific and technical services | 1,007.6 | 1,007.8 | 0.2 | 22.8 | 0.0 | 2.3 |
| Management, administrative and other support | 602.3 | 597.1 | -5.2 | 28.3 | -0.9 | 5.0 |
| Educational services | 1,018.6 | 1,029.8 | 11.2 | 56.7 | 1.1 | 5.8 |
| Health care and social assistance | 1,643.1 | 1,646.3 | 3.2 | 88.0 | 0.2 | 5.6 |
| Information, culture and recreation | 683.0 | 687.8 | 4.8 | -16.2 | 0.7 | -2.3 |
| Accommodation and food services | 1,016.1 | 1,025.1 | 9.0 | 46.1 | 0.9 | 4.7 |
| Other services | 696.5 | 692.6 | -3.9 | 5.6 | -0.6 | 0.8 |
| Public administration | 781.5 | 785.4 | 3.9 | 8.0 | 0.5 | 1.0 |
| Class of worker | | | | | | |
| Public sector employees | 2,939.6 | 2,956.3 | 16.7 | 133.3 | 0.6 | 4.7 |
| Private sector | 12,609.9 | 12,635.5 | 25.6 | 354.5 | 0.2 | 2.9 |
| Private employees | 10,197.9 | 10,254.7 | 56.8 | 282.5 | 0.6 | 2.8 |
| Self-employed | 2,412.0 | 2,380.8 | -31.2 | 72.0 | -1.3 | 3.1 |

Note: Related CANSIM tables 282-0088 and 282-0089.

Employment by type of work, age and sex

| | November 2002 | October to November 2002 | November 2001 to November 2002 | November 2002 | October to November 2002 | November 2001 to November 2002 | November 2002 | October to November 2002 | November 2001 to November 2002 |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Seasonally adjusted | | | | | | | | | |
| | Both sexes | | | Men | | | Women | | |
| | '000 | | | | | | | | |
| Employment | 15,591.8 | 42.3 | 487.7 | 8,333.5 | 19.6 | 231.2 | 7,258.3 | 22.7 | 256.6 |
| Full-time | 12,627.3 | 55.3 | 285.7 | 7,398.0 | 22.5 | 137.4 | 5,229.3 | 32.7 | 148.3 |
| Part-time | 2,964.5 | -12.9 | 202.0 | 935.5 | -2.9 | 93.8 | 2,029.0 | -10.1 | 108.2 |
| 15 to 24 | 2,398.1 | 15.2 | 93.8 | 1,213.2 | -0.7 | 46.9 | 1,184.9 | 15.9 | 46.9 |
| 25 and over | 13,193.7 | 27.1 | 393.9 | 7,120.3 | 20.3 | 184.2 | 6,073.4 | 6.8 | 209.7 |
| 25 to 54 | 11,343.8 | 2.2 | 185.7 | 6,021.9 | 4.2 | 63.7 | 5,321.9 | -1.9 | 122.0 |
| 55 and over | 1,849.9 | 24.9 | 208.2 | 1,098.4 | 16.2 | 120.5 | 751.5 | 8.7 | 87.7 |

Note: Related CANSIM tables 282-0087.

OTHER RELEASES

Energy supply and demand

Annual 2001 and fourth quarter 2001

Canada consumed 2.9% less energy in 2001 than in 2000. The reduction was the result of lower demand for energy from the manufacturing, residential and commercial sectors. However, the United States' appetite for Canadian energy continued to increase, accounting for over 53% of total primary energy production.

Total energy demand in Canada decreased 213 petajoules to 7 163 petajoules in 2001 from a revised total of 7 376 in 2000. One petajoule roughly equals the amount of energy required to operate the Montréal subway system for one year. Energy demand represents usage in plants, transportation of goods, operation of motor vehicles, heating of homes, office buildings and schools, and so on.

Natural gas production increased 2.0%, the result of higher exports to the United States. Production of crude oil rose 0.5%, because of higher deliveries to Canadian refineries. A 5.0% decline in primary electricity production was in response to lower exports to the United States combined with a reduction in domestic deliveries. Coal production increased 1.5%, resulting in higher inventory levels in 2001 than in 2000.

Energy use decreased in all key sectors of the economy. The mining sector consumed 0.9% less energy than in 2000, and energy demand in the manufacturing sector was down 5.6%. The residential and commercial sectors also posted lower consumption levels.

Total exports of primary energy products rose 1.3% in 2001, the result of gains in exports of natural gas.

Natural gas exports from Canada to the United States increased 7.1% from 2000 (the sixteenth consecutive annual advance) and now accounts for over 57% of Canadian production. Exports of crude oil, which dropped 0.8% from 2000, accounted for more than 62% of all Canadian production. Canada remains one of the major suppliers of crude oil to the United States, along with Saudi Arabia, Mexico, Venezuela and Nigeria.

Canada's trade surplus with the United States in 2001 reached \$132.5 billion dollars, with energy accounting for \$50.0 billion, or almost 38% of the total.

In the fourth quarter of 2001, production of primary energy fell 1.8% from the fourth quarter of 2000. Virtually

all forms of energy except coal posted decreases. Final energy demand dropped 6.9% from the fourth quarter of 2000, largely the result of decreased demand in the industrial, commercial and residential sectors.

Energy Supply and Demand

| | Fourth quarter 2000 ^f | Fourth quarter 2001 | Fourth quarter 2000 to fourth quarter 2001 |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| | Petajoules ¹ | | % change |
| Production² | 4 087 | 4 013 | -1.8 |
| Exports ² | 2 157 | 2 112 | -2.1 |
| Imports ² | 739 | 738 | -0.1 |
| Availability ² | 2 887 | 2 819 | -2.4 |
| Electricity generation | 445 | 413 | -7.2 |
| Producer consumption | 343 | 313 | -8.7 |
| Non-energy use | 205 | 199 | -2.9 |
| Final demand³ | 1 975 | 1 839 | -6.9 |
| Industrial | 571 | 552 | -3.3 |
| Transportation | 569 | 548 | -3.7 |
| Residential and agriculture | 449 | 391 | -12.9 |
| Commercial and government | 385 | 349 | -9.4 |
| Year-to-date | | | |
| | 2000 ^f | 2001 | 2000 to 2001 |
| | Petajoules ¹ | | % change |
| Production² | 15 768 | 15 844 | 0.5 |
| Exports ² | 8 328 | 8 440 | 1.3 |
| Imports ² | 2 852 | 3 013 | 5.6 |
| Availability ² | 10 831 | 10 836 | 0.0 |
| Electricity generation | 1 646 | 1 667 | 1.3 |
| Producer consumption | 1 257 | 1 257 | 0.0 |
| Non-energy use | 790 | 779 | -1.4 |
| Final demand³ | 7 376 | 7 163 | -2.9 |
| Industrial | 2 269 | 2 162 | -4.7 |
| Transportation | 2 280 | 2 240 | -1.8 |
| Residential and agriculture | 1 520 | 1 458 | -4.1 |
| Commercial and government | 1 308 | 1 304 | -0.3 |

^f Revised data.

¹ A 30-litre gasoline fill-up contains about one gigajoule of energy. A petajoule is one million gigajoules.

² Primary energy sources include coal, crude oil, natural gas, natural gas liquids, and hydro and nuclear electricity.

³ Final demand represents the sum of energy use by mining, manufacturing, forestry, construction, transportation, agriculture, residential, public administration and commercial and other institutional.

Note: In addition to the current quarter estimates, data for the previous quarters of the reference year

are regularly revised. In this release, revisions have also been made for the reference year 2000. Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of company data and revisions to previously estimated or reported data. Consult the appropriate CANSIM tables for revised data. Final demand is the sum of energy use by mining, manufacturing, forestry, construction, transportation, agriculture, residential, public administration and commercial and other institutional sectors.

Available on CANSIM: tables 128-0001 to 128-0003.

The fourth quarter 2001 issue of *Quarterly report on energy supply/demand in Canada* (57-003-XPB, \$43/\$141) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; energ@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact John Svab (613-951-7382; svabjw@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Farm product prices

October 2002

Prices received by farmers in October for grains, oilseeds, specialty crops, fruits, vegetables, cattle, hogs, poultry, eggs and dairy products are now available.

The Alberta feeder calf price in October was \$123.27 per hundredweight, up 3% from September, but 23% below the October 2001 price of \$159.47.

The Ontario barley price in October, at \$151.92 per metric tonne, was up 11% from September and at its highest level since April 1997, when it reached \$153.33.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Paul Murray (613-951-0065; paul.murray@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Production of eggs and poultry

October 2002 (preliminary)

Egg production was estimated at 48.4 million dozen in October, the same as in October 2001.

Poultry meat production was 90.9 million kilograms in October, down 0.4% from October 2001.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0022, 003-0038 and 003-0039.

The October 2002 issue of *Production of eggs* (23-003-XIB, free) will be available soon on Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca). From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Agriculture*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Sandy Giefeldt (613-951-2505; sandy.giefeldt@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Pipeline transportation of crude oil and refined petroleum products

May 2002

Data on the net receipts of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons, liquefied petroleum gases and refined petroleum products, pipeline exports of crude oil and deliveries of crude oil by pipeline to Canadian refineries are now available for May.

Available on CANSIM: tables 133-0001 to 133-0005.

For more 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; energ@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Wage progression of less skilled workers

1993 to 1998

Less skilled workers could substantially improve their prospect of earnings by staying at their jobs for certain periods of time, according to a new study.

These workers could update their skills by acquiring more education. But if that is not feasible, the second best thing for them to do is to accumulate specific knowledge of the firm, as well as experience, the study found.

This study, based on data for 1993 to 1998 from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics, investigates the wage growth mechanism of young, less skilled workers. It compares the payoffs, or returns, to two employment strategies: jumping between jobs every year as opposed to staying on a job for a number of years.

The former strategy only increases experience, while the latter increases employment tenure and work experience at the same time.

The study found that "firm-specific human capital," or knowledge of a firm, acquired by less skilled workers

may substitute for their lower "general human capital," or education. As a result, less skilled workers may be substantially better off by staying on their jobs instead of changing frequently.

The study defines less skilled workers as those who had acquired high school or lower education by 1993 and made no further advance thereafter. These workers were born between 1963 and 1977. Skilled workers are those who had acquired more than high school education by 1993.

In total, the study analysed labour market data for 1,527 less skilled men and 1,176 women. An average hourly wage rate was calculated on hourly wage rates of all jobs held by these workers from 1993 to 1998.

The study found that, for men or women, there was a payoff for a less skilled worker who worked for an additional year on his or her current job. For example, by staying on a job for five consecutive years, the hourly wage rate would grow on average 4.5% a year for a less skilled man, and about 4.0% for a less skilled woman.

These gains were only slightly lower than what their skilled counterparts would have received if they had also stuck to the same jobs during these five years.

Although it is sometimes argued that less skilled workers are mostly locked in dead-end jobs for which wages are stagnant, the study found that these workers could experience wage growth if they stayed with their current employer for a certain period of time.

However, it is important to note that these results are based on averages. Therefore, these findings do not rule out the possibility that at least some less skilled workers might be locked in dead-end jobs.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 3889.

The research paper *Wage progression of less skilled workers in Canada: Evidence from the SLID, 1993-1998*, (11F0019MIE, no. 194, free) is now available on Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca). From

the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Social conditions*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact René Morissette (613-951-3608), Business and Labour Market Analysis Division. ■

Literacy and literacy training of francophones in Canada

The analytical report *Literacy and literacy training of francophones in Canada* uses data from the 1994 International Adult Literacy Survey to paint a general picture of francophones' literacy in Canada, and examines literacy in the context of language transfers to English. It also examines literacy training of francophones, and sorts out the impact of various social and cultural factors on literacy. Finally, the report suggests a number of avenues that deserve attention with regards to the analysis of data from the forthcoming International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey, which will take place in 2003.

Information on methods and data quality available in the Integrated Meta Data Base: survey number 4406.

The monograph *Literacy and literacy training of francophones in Canada* (89-552-MIE, no. 10, free) is now available on Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca). From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Education*. A paper copy (89-552-MPE, no. 10, \$10) is also available. See *How to order products*.

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