



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, February 14, 2002

Released at 8:30 am Eastern time

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Incentives continued to stimulate the auto sector in December; new motor vehicle sales advanced 0.9% from November. Increases in the final months of the year propelled the number of new motor vehicles sold during 2001 to a new all-time high.
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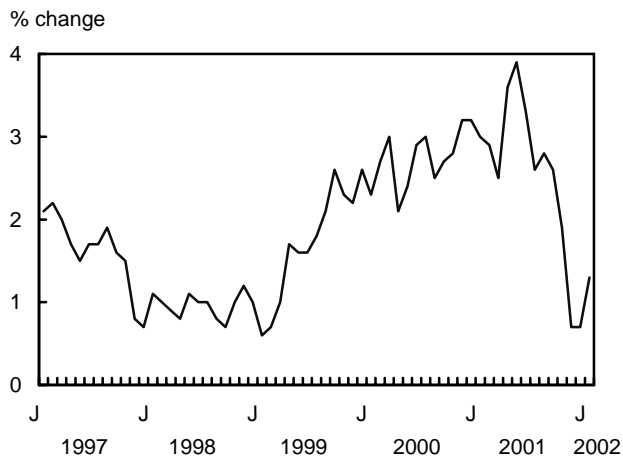
MAJOR RELEASES

Consumer Price Index

January 2002

Consumers paid 1.3% more in January than they did in January 2001 for the goods and services in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket. This rise in the index followed two consecutive year-over-year increases of 0.7%. The all-items excluding energy index rose 2.2% compared with January 2001.

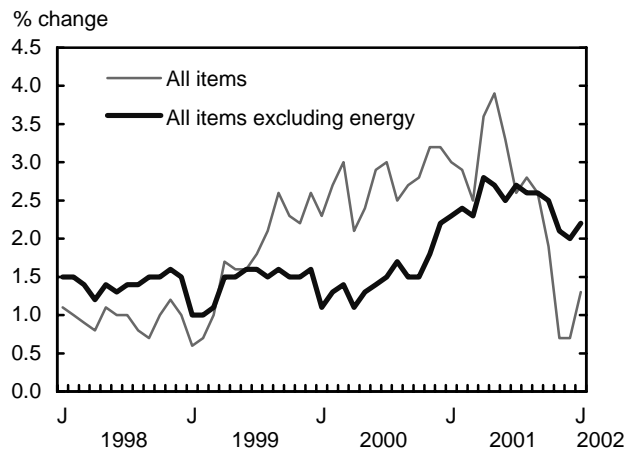
Percentage change in the Consumer Price Index from the same month of the previous year



Higher prices for food and tobacco products were the main source of upward pressure on the all-items CPI. Food prices rose 4.6% in January from January 2001, driven mainly by restaurant meals, fresh vegetables, fresh fruits and beef. The 23.6% increase in cigarette prices was largely the result of tax hikes.

The main source of downward pressure on January's all-items CPI was energy prices. They fell 7.0% from January 2001, primarily owing to gasoline (-15.9%) and fuel oil (-25.9%). The main cause of these declines was the price of oil, which hovered between \$30 and \$31 per barrel in January compared with around \$44 in January 2001.

Percentage change from the same month of the previous year



Monthly rise stronger than December's

The CPI rose 0.3% in January from December, after advancing a slight 0.1% in December from November. January's increase was primarily due to higher prices for fresh vegetables, automotive vehicle insurance premiums, gasoline and natural gas. Electricity prices (+1.7%) also pushed up the all-items CPI, although to a lesser extent. These increases were partly offset by lower prices for travel tours, and clothing and footwear.

The fresh vegetables index advanced 14.2% in January, as the worst US harvests seen since 1974 continued to drive up prices. Although fresh vegetable prices were lower in December than they were in December 2000, prices in January were 16.4% higher than in January 2001.

Insurance premiums for automotive vehicles rose 3.1% in January from December, mostly because of increases in British Columbia (+10.5%) and Ontario (+3.0%).

In January, consumers paid 2.5% more for gasoline than in December. This follows decreases of between 4.1% and 10.0% in December, November and October. Gasoline prices were up in almost all provinces, except Prince Edward Island (-4.4%) and Nova Scotia (-0.6%), as well as in Whitehorse (-2.2%).

The price of electricity increased 1.7% in January, mainly due to an 18.2% jump in the Alberta index. The end of the \$40 monthly credit that the Alberta

government granted to its customers in 2001 explains this increase.

The index for travel tours fell 10.1% in January. Prices for travel tours are collected each year for January, February and March, when tours are the most popular among Canadians. January's demand is the weakest of these three months. Since January prices are compared directly with those of March of the previous year, a price drop is usually measured in January. January 2002 was no exception.

The clothing and footwear index declined 1.4% in January; many items were still on sale. The main factors contributing to the decrease were discounts on women's footwear (-5.8%) and men's shirts and sweaters (-4.2%).

Available on CANSIM: tables 326-0001, 326-0003, 326-0004 and 326-0010.

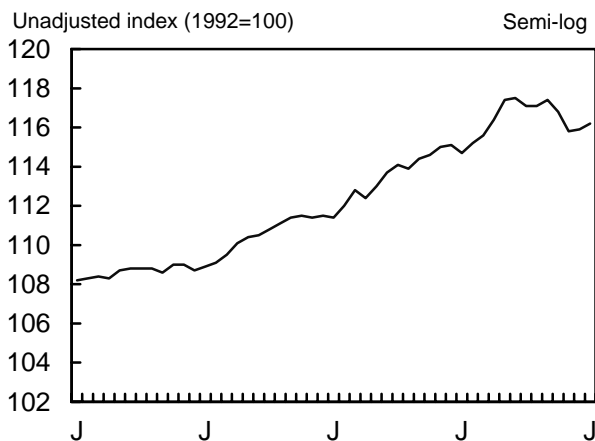
Available at 7 am on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca).

The January 2002 issue of *The Consumer Price Index* (62-001-XIB, \$8/\$77; 62-001-XPB, \$11/\$103) is now available. See *How to order products*.

February's Consumer Price Index will be released on Thursday, March 21.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, call Louise Chaîné (1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539) or Joanne Moreau (613-951-7130), Prices Division. □

Consumer Price Index



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

	January 2002	December 2001	January 2001	December 2001 to January 2002	January 2001 to January 2002
Unadjusted					
				% change	
All-items	116.2	115.9	114.7	0.3	1.3
Food	120.0	118.6	114.7	1.2	4.6
Shelter	113.0	112.6	111.0	0.4	1.8
Household operations and furnishings	112.9	113.0	110.5	-0.1	2.2
Clothing and footwear	102.3	103.7	104.8	-1.4	-2.4
Transportation	126.9	126.0	131.2	0.7	-3.3
Health and personal care	114.3	114.5	113.1	-0.2	1.1
Recreation, education and reading	122.3	122.9	121.4	-0.5	0.7
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	112.2	111.9	99.2	0.3	13.1
All-items (1986=100)	148.9				
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared to 1992	86.1	86.3	87.2		
Special aggregates					
Goods	112.8	112.3	112.3	0.4	0.4
Services	120.2	120.0	117.5	0.2	2.3
All-items excluding food and energy	114.7	114.8	112.8	-0.1	1.7
Energy	121.8	119.1	130.9	2.3	-7.0
All-items excluding the eight most volatile components ¹	117.8	117.7	115.7	0.1	1.8

¹ 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 their 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: (<http://www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation>).

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

	January 2002	December 2001	January 2001	December 2001 to January 2002	January 2001 to January 2002
Unadjusted					
				% change	
Newfoundland and Labrador	113.8	113.4	114.0	0.4	-0.2
Prince Edward Island	113.4	113.8	114.1	-0.4	-0.6
Nova Scotia	115.8	115.7	115.3	0.1	0.4
New Brunswick	114.7	114.3	113.4	0.3	1.1
Quebec	113.3	113.1	111.7	0.2	1.4
Ontario	117.3	117.3	115.9	0.0	1.2
Manitoba	120.6	120.1	119.1	0.4	1.3
Saskatchewan	120.9	120.3	118.3	0.5	2.2
Alberta	120.1	118.5	116.0	1.4	3.5
British Columbia	115.4	114.8	114.5	0.5	0.8
Whitehorse	115.2	115.2	115.9	0.0	-0.6
Yellowknife	113.8	113.1	112.1	0.6	1.5

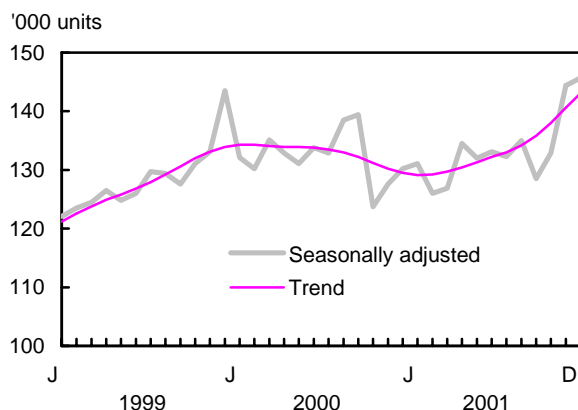
New motor vehicle sales

December 2001 and annual 2001

Incentives continued to stimulate the auto sector in December; new motor vehicle sales advanced 0.9% compared with November. December's gain was the third in a row, following increases of 8.6% in November and 3.5% in October.

In December, 145,665 new motor vehicles were sold, up 1,298 from November. This increase is entirely the result of passenger car sales, which advanced 1.7% in December while truck sales were nearly unchanged (-0.1%). Trucks include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses.

Three consecutive monthly increases
in new motor vehicle sales



According to preliminary figures from the auto industry, sales in January 2002 were down slightly from December.

Annual sales set record in 2001

Boosted by financing programs in the fourth quarter, total sales of new motor vehicles in 2001 were up 0.7% from 2000, the previous record year. Rebounding sales in November ended the lag seen throughout 2001. In fact, cumulative sales from January to October were 1.3% lower than those in the same period of 2000.

In all, 1,597,949 new motor vehicles were purchased in 2001, an all-time record. However, the 0.7% advance seen in 2001 falls short of the 3.0% and 7.9% gains in 2000 and 1999, respectively.

Note to readers

At the end of each calendar year, seasonally adjusted monthly figures are revised to equal the sum of the unadjusted estimates. Revised seasonally adjusted figures are presented this month for September to November 2001. The complete revision of seasonally adjusted data for the 2001 calendar year will be released in April. All annual comparisons in this release use the sum of unadjusted monthly estimates.

All data in this release are seasonally adjusted, unless otherwise indicated. Seasonally adjusted provincial data from January 1991 to the present are available on CANSIM.

Passenger cars include those used for personal and commercial purposes, such as taxis or rental cars. **Trucks** include minivans, sport-utility vehicles, light and heavy trucks, vans and buses.

North American-built new motor vehicles include vehicles manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico. All other new motor vehicles are considered to have been manufactured overseas.

For reasons of confidentiality, data for Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut are included in the data for British Columbia.

More cars sold in 2001

The higher new motor vehicle sales in 2001 were entirely due to passenger cars.

In 2001, 868,634 new passenger cars were sold, 2.3% more than in 2000 but short of the 5.3% growth recorded in 2000. Overseas-built cars accounted for all the increase in new passenger car sales in 2001. Their sales advanced 19.4%, but sales of North American-built cars declined 3.3%. The North American-built passenger car category includes cars produced by manufacturers based overseas.

After a sluggish start, sales of new passenger cars maintained an upward movement during 2001. Previously, sales of new passenger cars were generally stable since the start of 2000, after an upward movement that began at the end of 1998.

In 2001, 729,315 new trucks were sold, down 1.2% from 2000, when an increase of 0.4% was recorded. Overseas-built trucks advanced 18.1% in 2001, but those built in North America declined 3.2%.

After a period of stable sales that lasted from the fall of 1999 until the fall of 2000, truck sales dropped and then stabilized at the start of 2001. For most of 2001, truck sales were generally stable, rising sharply in the fourth quarter.

Little change in revenue

Although more new motor vehicles were sold in 2001, sales revenue was almost unchanged

from 2000 — down a marginal 0.1% to \$46.9 billion. A highly competitive marketplace, as shown by the widespread use of incentives, may have resulted in more new vehicles sold but nearly unchanged revenue. In addition, the mix of vehicles changed — more passenger cars and fewer trucks were sold.

The flat revenue was the combined result of a decrease in revenue for trucks (-1.6%) and an increase for passenger cars (+1.8%).

While more passenger cars than trucks were sold in 2001, trucks accounted for 54.8% of the \$46.9 billion in revenue from all new motor vehicle sales. This is because trucks had an average unit value of \$35,261, compared with \$24,370 for passenger cars. Light trucks (excluding most heavy trucks and buses), had an average unit value of \$32,886.

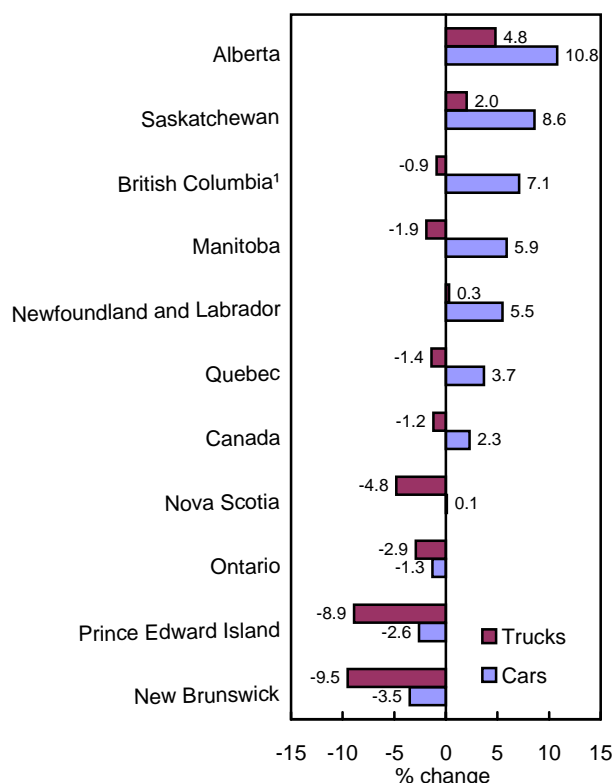
Alberta led the way

The largest annual increases in the number of new motor vehicles sold were recorded in the Western provinces, led by Alberta.

Alberta was the most dynamic province, reporting a 7.0% gain in sales. Furthermore, Alberta reported the strongest advances for both cars (+10.8%) and trucks (+4.8%).

New Brunswick (-6.4%), Prince Edward Island (-5.4%), Ontario (-2.0%) and Nova Scotia (-1.9%) saw the only decreases in 2001. The weaker annual sales performance in these provinces is mainly the result of fewer new trucks sold. These provinces posted the largest declines in new truck sales, and also reported lower new passenger car sales, except for a slight increase in Nova Scotia (0.1%).

**New motor vehicle sales
2001 compared with 2000**



¹ Includes Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Available on CANSIM: tables 079-0001 and 079-0002.

The December 2001 issue of *New motor vehicle sales* (63-007-XIB, \$13/\$124) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For data or general information, contact the Client Services Unit (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Cl rance Kimanyi (613-951-6363; clerance.kimanyi@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division. □

New motor vehicle sales

	December 2000	November 2001 ^r	December 2001 ^p	December 2000 to December 2001	November to December 2001
Seasonally adjusted					
	Number of vehicles			% change	
New motor vehicles	130,224	144,367	145,665	11.9	0.9
Passenger cars	71,149	76,868	78,201	9.9	1.7
North American ¹	54,090	54,211	55,973	3.5	3.3
Overseas	17,059	22,657	22,228	30.3	-1.9
Trucks, vans and buses	59,075	67,500	67,464	14.2	-0.1
New motor vehicles					
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,994	2,287	2,237	12.2	-2.2
Prince Edward Island	409	423	411	0.5	-2.8
Nova Scotia	3,624	4,050	3,872	6.8	-4.4
New Brunswick	3,098	3,464	3,355	8.3	-3.1
Quebec	32,149	35,153	36,348	13.1	3.4
Ontario	53,311	58,253	60,719	13.9	4.2
Manitoba	3,456	3,928	3,845	11.3	-2.1
Saskatchewan	2,985	3,582	3,522	18.0	-1.7
Alberta	14,722	17,028	16,263	10.5	-4.5
British Columbia ²	14,475	16,198	15,093	4.3	-6.8
	December 2000	November 2001	December 2001 ^p	December 2000 to December 2001	
Unadjusted					
	Number of vehicles			% change	
New motor vehicles	116,162	131,917	135,797	16.9	
Passenger cars	58,223	70,050	66,249	13.8	
North American ¹	45,215	49,968	49,903	10.4	
Overseas	13,008	20,082	16,346	25.7	
Trucks, vans and buses	57,939	61,867	69,548	20.0	
New motor vehicles					
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,239	1,616	1,377	11.1	
Prince Edward Island	332	348	347	4.5	
Nova Scotia	3,049	3,184	3,359	10.2	
New Brunswick	2,650	2,934	2,953	11.4	
Quebec	23,717	29,950	28,239	19.1	
Ontario	48,643	55,691	58,560	20.4	
Manitoba	3,326	3,676	3,881	16.7	
Saskatchewan	3,016	3,396	3,778	25.3	
Alberta	15,544	16,566	17,467	12.4	
British Columbia ²	14,646	14,556	15,836	8.1	

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

¹ Manufactured or assembled in Canada, the United States or Mexico.

² Includes Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

Sales of new motor vehicles
2001

	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks	Total	Passenger cars	Trucks
	Number of vehicles			% change from 2000		
Canada	1,597,949	868,634	729,315	0.7	2.3	-1.2
Newfoundland and Labrador	24,650	14,576	10,074	3.3	5.5	0.3
Prince Edward Island	4,635	2,630	2,005	-5.4	-2.6	-8.9
Nova Scotia	43,310	26,029	17,281	-1.9	0.1	-4.8
New Brunswick	38,183	20,366	17,817	-6.4	-3.5	-9.5
Quebec	397,759	258,768	138,991	1.9	3.7	-1.4
Ontario	647,292	355,308	291,984	-2.0	-1.3	-2.9
Manitoba	43,298	19,716	23,582	1.5	5.9	-1.9
Saskatchewan	38,352	15,498	22,854	4.6	8.6	2.0
Alberta	187,864	71,476	116,388	7.0	10.8	4.8
British Columbia ¹	172,606	84,267	88,339	2.9	7.1	-0.9

¹ Includes Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.

OTHER RELEASES

Apartment Building Construction Price Index

Fourth quarter 2001

The composite price index for apartment building construction (1992=100) was 122.5 in the fourth quarter, up 0.3% from the third quarter and up 1.6% compared with the fourth quarter of 2000.

The highest quarterly change was recorded in Montréal (+1.5%), followed by Calgary (+0.5%), Halifax and Edmonton (both +0.4%) and Vancouver (+0.3%). The indexes for Ottawa and Toronto both dropped 0.2%.

Montréal saw the highest year-over-year gain compared with the fourth quarter of 2000 (+2.7%), followed by Calgary (+1.9%), Edmonton (+1.8%), Halifax (+1.4%), Ottawa and Toronto (both +1.3%), and Vancouver (+1.2%).

Apartment Building Construction Price Index (1992=100)

	Fourth quarter 2001	Fourth quarter 2000 to fourth quarter 2001 % change	Third to fourth quarter 2001
Composite	122.5	1.6	0.3
Halifax	113.4	1.4	0.4
Montréal	121.5	2.7	1.5
Ottawa	124.6	1.3	-0.2
Toronto	128.9	1.3	-0.2
Calgary	125.1	1.9	0.5
Edmonton	123.3	1.8	0.4
Vancouver	119.8	1.2	0.3

Note: The apartment building construction price indexes provide an indication of new construction cost changes in seven major urban areas across Canada (Halifax, Montréal, Ottawa, Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver).

Besides each of the urban areas' indexes and the composite index, there are further breakdowns of cost changes by trade groups within the building (structural, architectural, mechanical and electrical). These price indexes are derived from surveys of general and special trade-group contractors who report on the categories of costs (material, labour, equipment, taxes, overhead and profits) relevant to the detailed construction specifications included in the surveys.

Available on CANSIM: table 327-0002.

The fourth quarter 2001 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79) will be available in March. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Susie Boyd (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca), Prices Division. ■

Steel primary forms

Week ending February 9, 2002 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending February 9 totalled 302 256 metric tonnes, down 3.0% from 311 753 tonnes a week earlier and up 12.9% from 267 626 tonnes in the same week of 2001. The year-to-date total at the end of the reference week was 1 752 014 tonnes, a 12.0% increase compared with 1 564 040 in the same week of 2001.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods, or data quality of this release, contact Misbah Subhani (951-4924; misbah.subhani@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Crushing statistics

January 2002

Oilseed processors crushed 213 233 metric tonnes of canola in January, according to the monthly report of crushing operations. Oil production totalled 90 117 tonnes, and meal production amounted to 132 796 tonnes.

Available on CANSIM: table 001-0005.

The January 2002 issue of the *Cereals and oilseeds review*, Vol. 25, no. 1 (22-007-XIB, \$11/\$112; 22-007-XPB, \$15/\$149) will be available in April. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Les Macartney (613-951-8714; les.macartney@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard

December 2001

Oriented strandboard production in December totalled 692 977 cubic metres, up 3.9% from 667 001 cubic metres in December 2000. Particleboard production reached 163 541 cubic metres, a decrease of 3.1% from 168 817 cubic metres in December 2000. Fibreboard production totalled 78 800 cubic metres, up 27.8% from 61 669 cubic metres in December 2000.

For the year 2001, production of oriented strandboard totalled 7 941 901 cubic metres, a 1.2% increase from 7 847 112 cubic metres in 2000. Particleboard production reached 2 783 163 cubic metres, up 10.6% from 2 516 875 cubic metres in 2000. Year-to-date fibreboard production totalled 1 037 613 cubic metres, up 7.5% from 964 907 cubic metres during the same period in 2000.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0002.

The December 2001 issue of *Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard*, Vol. 37, no. 12 (36-003-XIB, \$5/\$47) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For general information or to order data, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts,

methods or data quality of this release, contact Sara Breen (613-951-3521; sara.breen@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Aircraft movement statistics

July 2001

There were 649,600 take-offs and landings recorded in July at the 98 airports with Nav Canada air traffic control towers and flight service stations. This was an increase of 5.2% from July 2000, when there were 100 airports in the tower and flight service station categories. Churchill and Fort Simpson are now included with the data for airports without air traffic control towers.

Statistics for the airports without air traffic control towers participating in this survey are also available. In July, these 111 airports reported 87,331 take-offs and landings.

The July 2001 monthly report (TP141, free) is available on Transport Canada's Web site at the following URL: (<http://www.tc.gc.ca/pol/en/Report/tp141e/tp141.htm>).

For more information about this Web site, contact Michel Villeneuve (613-990-3825; villenm@tc.gc.ca) or Sheila Rajani (613-993-9822; rajanis@tc.gc.ca).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Kathie Davidson (613-951-0141; fax: 613-951-0010; aviationstatistics@statcan.ca) Transportation Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard,
Vol. 37, no. 12, December 2001
Catalogue number **36-003-XIB** (\$5/\$47).

Canadian civil aviation, 1999
Catalogue number **51-206-XIB** (\$31).

Science statistics, Vol. 26, no. 1
Catalogue number **88-001-XIB** (\$6/\$59).

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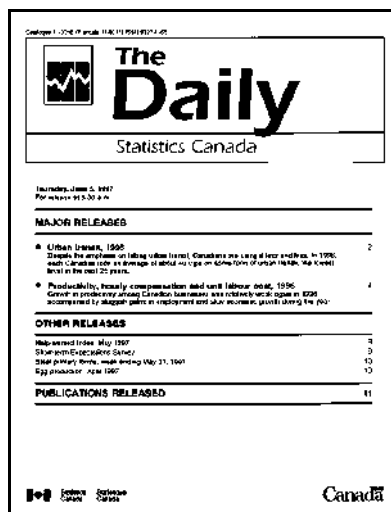
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Catalogue 11-001E.

Published each working day by the Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10-H, R.H. Coats Bldg., Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

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