

# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, March 11, 2002

Released at 8:30 am Eastern time

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## MAJOR RELEASES

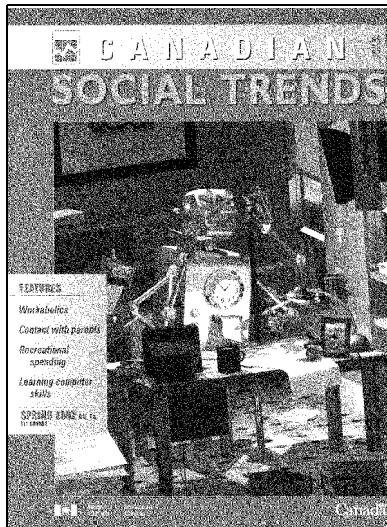
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● **Industrial capacity utilization rates, fourth quarter 2001**

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Industries operated at 80.3% capacity in the fourth quarter, the lowest rate since the fourth quarter of 1995, when it was 80.2%. The 1.2-percentage-point drop from the third quarter marked the sixth consecutive quarterly decline.

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### Canadian social trends

Spring 2002

Each quarter, *Canadian social trends* integrates data from many sources to examine emerging social trends and issues. The spring 2002 issue contains four articles and a special insert with the summary of main findings of the 2000 Youth in Transition Survey.

The feature article, "Driven to excel: A portrait of Canada's workaholics," briefly profiles people who describe themselves as workaholics; "Staying in touch: Contact between adults and their parents" examines the factors that contribute to frequent contact between adult children and their parents; "The changing recreational spending patterns of Canadian families" looks at the choices Canadians make when deciding how to spend their recreation dollar; "Learning computer skills" examines how men and women aged 15 and over learned their computer skills and which methods they found most important.

This issue of *Canadian social trends* also features the latest social indicators as well as information about Statistics Canada's products and services.

The spring 2002 issue of *Canadian social trends*, no. 64 (11-008-XIE, \$8/\$27; 11-008-XPE, \$11/\$36) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, contact Susan Crompton (613-951-2556; [cstsc@statcan.ca](mailto:cstsc@statcan.ca)), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division.



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## **NEW PRODUCTS**

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## MAJOR RELEASES

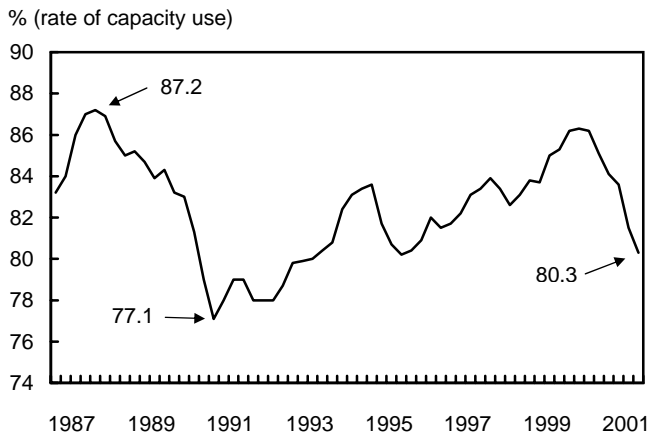
### Industrial capacity utilization rates

Fourth quarter 2001

Industries operated at 80.3% capacity in the fourth quarter, the lowest rate since the fourth quarter of 1995, when it was 80.2%. The 1.2-percentage-point drop from the third quarter marked the sixth consecutive quarterly decline.

Reduced rates were widespread among the industry groups making up the industrial aggregate, and reflected lower output. In the non-manufacturing groups, only construction industries posted a modest increase; rates declined in mining and oil and gas extraction, logging and forestry, and electric power. The manufacturing aggregate posted a decline — rates fell in 15 of its 21 major industry groups. (The rates of capacity use have been revised back to the first quarter of 1999 to incorporate revisions in source data.)

Capacity use declines



Some of the fourth quarter's drop in production was the result of the drawing-down of inventories by producers, retailers and wholesalers to meet higher consumer demand. According to January's Business Conditions Survey, almost one-third of manufacturers were still concerned that their current finished inventories were too high; just over one-third expected to reduce output in the first quarter of 2002.

The excess production capacity, together with falling corporate profits, were reflected in reduced business investment in plant and equipment in the fourth quarter. This decline in business investment is likely to continue in 2002, according to the latest investment intentions survey. Firms in the industrial sector are planning to spend 5.2% less in 2002 than they did in 2001.

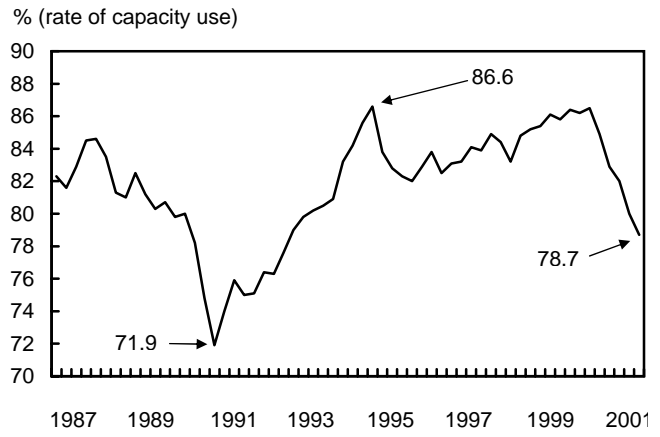
**Note to readers**

An industry's **capacity use** is the ratio of its actual output to its estimated potential output. Statistics Canada derives estimates of an industry's potential output from measures of its capital stock. In addition, since 1987 Statistics Canada has been surveying companies for their estimates of annual capacity use, in order to produce survey-based industry measures. A company's measure of its level of operation, as a percentage of potential, takes into account changes in the obsolescence of facilities, capital-to-labour ratios and other characteristics of production techniques. The surveyed rates anchor the calculated quarterly series, and ensure they reflect such changes.

### Manufacturing slide continues

Manufacturers reduced their rate of capacity use for a fifth straight quarter. The rate for the fourth quarter was 78.7%, down 1.3 percentage points from the third, and the lowest since the fourth quarter of 1992 when it was 77.6%. The lower rates were widespread; 15 of the 21 major industry groups in manufacturing posted declines. The most notable were in computer and electronic products, electrical equipment and appliances, chemicals and transportation equipment.

Manufacturing down for fifth straight quarter



Producers in the computer and electronic products group of industries reduced output by 15.1% in the fourth quarter, the fifth consecutive quarterly drop. The fourth quarter's decline brought output to 54.3% of its third quarter 2000 peak. The prolonged world-wide slump in investment in telecommunications equipment continued to dampen production. Output of computers

and peripheral equipment, semiconductors and other electronic components and audio, video and other instruments also fell. The resulting excess production capacity was reflected in a rate of capacity use of 61.3% in the fourth quarter, down 5.1 percentage points from the third quarter, and down 38.2 percentage points from the third quarter of 2000, when the group was operating flat out at 99.5%.

Producers of electrical equipment and appliances posted their fourth in a string of quarterly cutbacks in output in the fourth quarter. As a result, their rate of capacity use fell 5.5 percentage points to 66.5%.

In the chemicals group, the rate of capacity use fell 2.0 percentage points to 74.1%. A healthy increase in output by pharmaceutical manufacturers failed to offset declines in the output of basic chemicals and resins, synthetic rubber and fibre.

The rate of capacity use in the transportation equipment group slipped 0.6 percentage points to 84.8%. Reductions in the assembly of motor vehicles and the production of motor vehicle parts more than offset increased aircraft production in the fourth quarter. Although sales of motor vehicles were brisk, much of the activity was in response to aggressive sales incentives on the part of the North American auto industry, as it worked to bring inventories down to manageable levels.

Paper was among the handful of manufacturing industry groups that posted higher rates of capacity use in the fourth quarter. The rate rose 0.8 percentage points to 88.2% due to a moderate advance in production. That advance was due entirely to the strength of the group's performance in October, as weak demand and an oversupply of paper dampened production in November and December.

### **In non-manufacturing, only construction sees rise**

Construction industries struck a positive note in the non-manufacturing group; interest rates at 40-year lows helped boost demand for housing. The resulting increase in residential construction was mainly responsible for the fourth quarter's increase in construction activity. The corresponding rise in the rate of capacity use by construction industries was 0.2 percentage points, bringing the rate to 89.2%.

The rate of capacity use in oil and gas extraction edged down 0.2 percentage points to 69.3% as increased production capacity more than offset a rise in production. In mining industries, output dropped largely as a result of a 20% plunge in drilling and rigging activity in the wake of falling oil and gas prices. The rate of capacity use fell 7.5 percentage points to 84.9%.

Milder-than-usual fall weather reduced residential and industry heating needs over the fourth quarter and led to a 0.6-percentage-point drop to 85.4% in the rate of capacity use by electric utilities. In logging and forestry, the rate of capacity use dropped 2.6 percentage points to 78.4% in light of a decline in output.

**Available on CANSIM: table 028-0002.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Susanna Wood (613-951-0655) or Richard Landry (613-951-2579), Investment and Capital Stock Division. □

## Industrial capacity utilization rates

	Third quarter 2001 <sup>r</sup>	Fourth quarter 2001	Third to fourth quarter 2001	Annual average		2000 to 2001
				2000 <sup>r</sup>	2001	
			Percentage point change			Percentage point change
<b>Total non-farm goods-producing Industries</b>	<b>81.5</b>	<b>80.3</b>	<b>-1.2</b>	<b>86.0</b>	<b>82.4</b>	<b>-3.6</b>
Logging and forestry	81.0	78.4	-2.6	88.1	83.2	-4.9
Mining and oil and gas extraction	76.9	74.3	-2.6	78.9	77.4	-1.5
Oil and gas extraction	69.5	69.3	-0.2	73.6	70.6	-3.0
Mining	92.4	84.9	-7.5	89.5	91.3	1.8
Electric power generation, transmission and distribution	86.0	85.4	-0.6	88.5	87.5	-1.0
Construction	89.0	89.2	0.2	90.3	89.5	-0.8
Manufacturing	80.0	78.7	-1.3	86.0	80.9	-5.1
Food	81.5	82.2	0.7	80.9	81.6	0.7
Beverage and tobacco products	78.0	77.0	-1.0	79.5	77.7	-1.8
Beverages	78.8	78.9	0.1	79.9	78.7	-1.2
Tobacco	76.2	72.4	-3.8	78.5	75.1	-3.4
Textile mills	80.3	78.3	-2.0	83.6	80.9	-2.7
Textile product mills	79.3	73.4	-5.9	81.4	78.0	-3.4
Clothing	82.1	77.7	-4.4	84.0	82.7	-1.3
Leather and allied products	79.4	70.5	-8.9	72.7	74.5	1.8
Wood products	81.9	81.0	-0.9	85.1	82.1	-3.0
Paper	87.4	88.2	0.8	92.1	89.1	-3.0
Printing and related support activities	75.8	72.2	-3.6	79.5	76.1	-3.4
Petroleum and coal products	94.6	95.8	1.2	93.6	95.2	1.6
Chemicals	76.1	74.1	-2.0	80.1	78.5	-1.6
Plastics and rubber products	79.8	79.9	0.1	85.1	80.6	-4.5
Plastic products	77.9	78.4	0.5	83.8	79.0	-4.8
Rubber products	84.5	83.9	-0.6	88.0	84.5	-3.5
Non-metallic mineral products	74.8	75.7	0.9	79.8	77.4	-2.4
Primary metals	85.7	85.7	0.0	90.5	86.3	-4.2
Fabricated metal products	80.6	78.5	-2.1	84.1	80.7	-3.4
Machinery	79.0	78.1	-0.9	83.6	79.3	-4.3
Computer and electronic products	66.4	61.3	-5.1	96.1	70.9	-25.2
Electrical equipment, appliances and components	72.0	66.5	-5.5	92.1	74.8	-17.3
Transportation equipment	85.4	84.8	-0.6	89.0	84.5	-4.5
Furniture and related products	75.5	71.9	-3.6	84.8	78.8	-6.0
Miscellaneous manufacturing	80.5	76.2	-4.3	83.5	80.3	-3.2

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.



## OTHER RELEASES

### New Housing Price Index

January 2002

The New Housing Price Index (1992=100) rose 0.3% in January from December. Compared with January 2001, this index of contractors' selling prices increased 2.9%.

### New Housing Price Index (1992=100)

	Jan. 2002	Jan. 2001 to Jan. 2002	Dec. 2001 to Jan. 2002
	% change		
<b>Canada</b>	<b>107.6</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>0.3</b>
House only	110.9	3.6	0.5
Land only	104.1	0.9	0.1
St. John's	101.7	2.2	-
Halifax	121.2	3.0	1.1
Charlottetown	107.3	0.3	-
Saint John—Moncton—Fredericton	94.5	1.2	-
Québec	106.2	2.5	0.8
Montréal	115.8	4.1	0.3
Ottawa—Gatineau	124.4	6.1	1.3
Toronto	110.3	2.2	0.2
Hamilton	109.1	2.7	0.2
St. Catharines—Niagara	110.7	3.1	0.7
Kitchener—Waterloo	110.8	2.7	0.5
London	106.3	3.8	1.1
Windsor	106.4	-0.1	-
Sudbury—Thunder Bay	97.7	0.5	-0.2
Winnipeg	120.4	1.9	-
Regina	136.1	2.2	-
Saskatoon	120.4	2.3	-
Calgary	138.3	3.7	0.4
Edmonton	116.2	3.5	0.5
Vancouver	85.2	2.7	0.2
Victoria	72.7	1.0	-

- Nil or zero.

Monthly rises occurred in 12 of the 21 urban centres surveyed. The largest monthly advance occurred in the Ottawa—Gatineau census metropolitan area (+1.3%), mainly due to higher material and labour costs and an active market. Following closely were Halifax (+1.1%) and London (+1.1%). Builders in both these cities cited higher costs for materials and labour, as well as favourable market conditions. In Halifax, land values were up as well.

Québec (+0.8%) and St. Catharines—Niagara (+0.7%) both reported higher land values in new areas of development. In addition, Québec experienced higher costs for material and labour; in St. Catharines—Niagara, a good market contributed to higher prices in January.

Edmonton and Kitchener—Waterloo each posted 0.5% advances in January, the former due to higher labour costs and the latter due to good market conditions.

Calgary's 0.4% rise was caused by upward movement of several costs: concrete, drywall and labour. Montréal (+0.3%) also reported higher labour costs, along with increased land values in new phases of development.

Toronto, Hamilton and Vancouver all registered increases of +0.2% due to good markets.

Sudbury—Thunder Bay posted a 0.2% decrease from December, and eight urban centres registered no change.

On an annual basis, Ottawa—Gatineau continued to lead the way with the largest 12-month increase (+6.1%) for new homes. Montréal (+4.1%), London (+3.8%) and Calgary (+3.7%) followed. Windsor (-0.1%) posted the only annual decrease.

**Available on CANSIM: table 327-0005.**

The first quarter 2002 issue of *Capital expenditure price statistics* (62-007-XPB, \$24/\$79) will be available in June. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Suzie Boyd (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; [infounit@statcan.ca](mailto:infounit@statcan.ca)) or Anne Williamson (613-951-2035; [willann@statcan.ca](mailto:willann@statcan.ca)), Prices Division. ■

### Livestock feed requirements study 1999 and 2000

The *Livestock feed requirements study*, which focusses on provincial and Canadian feed demand, is now available for 1999 and 2000. The study estimates that, in 2000, Canadian livestock required 23.4 million metric tonnes of grain-based feed along with 42.8 million tonnes of roughage.

In 2000, Alberta livestock demanded more feed than any other province, requiring 26% of all Canadian grain-based rations and 38% of the roughage. For the grain-based rations requirements, Ontario and Quebec followed closely, requiring 25% and 22%, respectively, of the national total. Saskatchewan was the second largest province for roughage requirements (17%), and Ontario was third (15%).

Hogs required the bulk of the grain-based feed, 36% of the national consumption; the beef industry consumed 75% of the roughage. Grain corn

was the most popular ingredient in the grain-based rations, 34% by weight.

The *Livestock feed requirements study, 1999–2000* (23-501-XIE, free) is now available on Statistics Canada's Web site ([www.statcan.ca](http://www.statcan.ca)). From the *Our products and services* page, choose *Free publications*, then *Agriculture*.

For general information, call (1-800-216-2299). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Barbara McLaughlin (902-893-7251; [barbara.mclaughlin@statcan.ca](mailto:barbara.mclaughlin@statcan.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## Farm product prices

January 2002

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

The Ontario slaughter steer price in January was \$104.83 per hundredweight, up 4% from December's price but still 13% below the record of \$120.30 in April. The January non-board barley price in Alberta, at \$154.17 per metric tonne, was up 11% from December, and the highest since July 1996, when it reached \$158.37 per tonne.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bernie Rosien (613-951-2441; fax: 613-951-3868; [bernie.rosien@statcan.ca](mailto:bernie.rosien@statcan.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## Compensation Sector Survey

September–October 2001

A microdata file from the Compensation Sector Survey is now available. Information in this file (75M0011XCB, \$2,000) pertains to demographic characteristics of the compensation specialists of the human resources community of the federal Public Service.

For more information on the survey results, contact Jocelyne Huard (613-954-4341; [huard.jocelyne@tbs-sct.gc.ca](mailto:huard.jocelyne@tbs-sct.gc.ca)), Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat.

For information on the public-use microdata file, contact Client Services (1-888-297-7355; 613-951-7355; fax: 613-951-3012; [ssd@statcan.ca](mailto:ssd@statcan.ca)), Special Surveys Division, Statistics Canada. For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Ghysline Forget (613-951-9791; [forghy@statcan.ca](mailto:forghy@statcan.ca)). ■

## Driven to excel: A portrait of Canada's workaholics

1998

People who consider themselves workaholics are more likely than other Canadians to feel stressed or worried, and are less likely to feel happy or satisfied with their lives — even though they are just as likely to enjoy their jobs.

In addition, more than half feel trapped in a daily routine, compared with just one-third of their non-workaholic counterparts. And nearly 6 in 10 say they just don't have time for fun any more, compared with 3 in 10 non-workaholics. Rates of workaholicism are higher among those with children.

This profile of people who described themselves as workaholics, based on time-use data from the 1998 General Social Survey (GSS), is published in the Spring 2002 issue of *Canadian social trends*, available today. According to the GSS, more than one-quarter of Canadians aged 15 and older, or 6.6 million people, considered themselves workaholics.

This proportion is in line with studies in the United States, which estimate that up to 30% of Americans are "addicted" to work.

More than half of those responding to the GSS who claimed to be workaholics say they felt under constant stress trying to accomplish more than they could handle. They reported being trapped in a daily routine and complained of never having enough time for fun. They were also more concerned than others about not devoting enough time to family and friends, and less satisfied with the way they spend their remaining time.

The proportion of people who lived with these negative feelings was significantly lower among people who did not consider themselves workaholics. For example, on the one hand 58% of self-perceived work addicts reported feeling constant stress trying to spread themselves too thinly. On the other hand, only 29% of those who did not feel they are workaholics reported feeling the same way.

However, the two groups showed no difference in how they viewed themselves. About 4 in 10 of both groups reported they were very satisfied with their self-esteem.

The data also showed that workaholics got just as much satisfaction from their careers as other workers. Nearly 4 in 10 among each group reported feeling very satisfied with their job.

Although work addiction can happen to anyone in any setting, people in management occupations, trades, and processing, manufacturing and utilities jobs were most likely to consider themselves workaholics. Those

least likely to identify as workaholics were workers in clerical positions. These findings indicate that workaholics are not always in corporate or office jobs.

**Note:** The GSS was based on respondents' own perceptions of being workaholics. It is not known whether the respondents were in fact workaholics, only that they believed they were.

The spring 2002 issue of *Canadian social trends*, no. 64 (11-008-XIE, \$8/\$27; 11-008-XPE, \$11/\$36) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information about *Canadian social trends*, contact Susan Crompton (613-951-2556; [cstsc@statcan.ca](mailto:cstsc@statcan.ca)), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division. To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Anna

Kemeny (613-951-3399), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division. ■

### **Exports of skim milk powder** 2001 (revised)

International Trade Division has revised data on Canadian exports of skim milk powder up to the end of 2001. Although the revised data are available, they will only be reflected in the published data on May 17, along with the other revisions for 2001.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jocelyne Elibani (1-800-294-5583; 613-951-9647) International Trade Division. ■



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## NEW PRODUCTS

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**Canadian social trends**, no. 64, Spring 2002  
**Catalogue number 11-008-XIE** (\$8/\$27).

**Canadian social trends**, no. 64, Spring 2002  
**Catalogue number 11-008-XPE** (\$11/\$36).

**Cereals and oilseeds review**, Vol. 24, no. 12,  
December 2001  
**Catalogue number 22-007-XIB** (\$11/\$112).

**Cereals and oilseeds review**, Vol. 24, no. 12,  
December 2001  
**Catalogue number 22-007-XPB** (\$15/\$149).

**Livestock feed requirements study**, 1999–2000  
**Catalogue number 23-501-XIE**  
(free).

**Restaurant, caterer and tavern statistics**, Vol. 33,  
no. 12, December 2001  
**Catalogue number 63-011-XIE** (\$6/\$55).

**Compensation Sector Survey**,  
September–October 2001  
**Catalogue number 75M0011XCB** (\$2,000).

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

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Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997  
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**MAJOR RELEASES**

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2  
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are getting it less and less. In 1995, about 10 percent took an average of about 15 trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1995** 4  
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses was relatively weak again in 1995, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

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### Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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