



The Daily

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- **Canadian international merchandise trade, February 2002** 3
Canada's merchandise exports and imports posted increases in February as automobile assembly lines stepped up production after shutdowns in January.

- **Monthly Survey of Manufacturing, February 2002** 7
Resilient consumer demand helped soften the economic downturn, and encouraging signs are now emerging in the manufacturing sector. Manufacturing shipments rose 0.8% to \$42.1 billion in February, driven by the resurgence of the motor vehicle industry. This followed January's 3.2% surge.

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Perspectives on labour and income

April 2002 online edition

The April 2002 issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*, available today, features two articles.

"Duration of multiple jobholding" looks at the length of time people work at more than one job — is the situation temporary or a career choice? For more information, contact Katherine Marshall (613-951-6890; katherine.marshall@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

"High-tech boom and bust" uses the Labour Force Survey to examine the recent declines in employment in the computer and telecommunications sector (a subset of the information and communication technology sector). For more information, contact Geoff Bowlby (613 951-3325; geoff.bowlby@statcan.ca), Labour Statistics Division.

The April 2002 online edition of *Perspectives on labour and income* Volume 3, number 4 (75-001-XIE, \$5/\$48) is now available. See *How to order products*. For more information, contact Henry Pold (613 951-4608; henry.pold@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.



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NEW PRODUCTS

MAJOR RELEASES

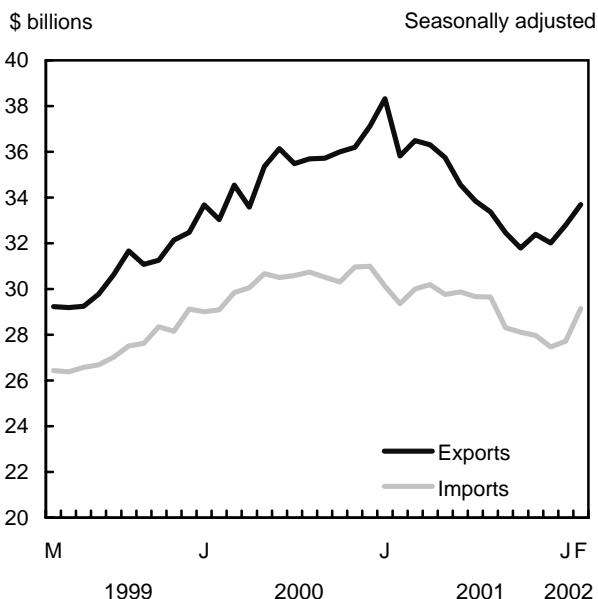
Canadian international merchandise trade

February 2002

Canada's merchandise exports and imports posted increases in February as automobile assembly lines stepped up production after shutdowns in January.

Canadian companies exported \$33.7 billion worth of goods, up 2.7% from January's revised level, the largest monthly rate of growth since May 2000. Automotive products accounted for 25% of February's total, compared with about 22% in January.

Exports and imports



years. Auto plants, which had been shut down for several weeks in January, began working overtime, giving exports of passenger autos the largest monthly percentage increase since August 1998. The trucks and other motor vehicles sub-sector rose 2.9% to \$1.6 billion; motor vehicle parts increased only a slight 0.2% to \$2.4 billion.

In the machinery and equipment sector, exports fell 8.0% to \$8.0 billion. The decline was led by aircraft and other transportation equipment, where exports fell 21.3% to \$2.1 billion. However, this monthly decline in aircraft and other equipment marked a return to more normal levels. Exports of aircraft engines and parts in February were down more than half a billion dollars from the record high set in January.

Exports of television, telecommunications and related equipment were up 4.7% to just under \$1 billion, the fourth straight monthly increase. Since October, exports in this sub-sector have risen 22.6%.

Industrial goods and materials exports rose 5.9% to \$5.8 billion. Gains in this sector over the past five years have been driven by a steady increase in exports of chemicals, plastics and fertilizers.

In the energy sector, exports increased 2.8% to \$3.1 billion, the third straight monthly increase. February's increase was due mainly to strong exports of crude petroleum to the United States; the 16.7% rise to just over \$1 billion more than compensated for weaknesses in exports of natural gas and electricity. Natural gas exports fell 6.1% in February to \$1.2 billion. Natural gas prices in February returned to the lower levels seen in the early months of 2000.

Petroleum and coal product exports staged a slight comeback, rising 1.8% to \$586.0 million after two consecutive monthly declines.

The forestry products export sector picked up steam in February, rising 7.2% to just under \$3.1 billion. Exports of lumber and sawmill products rose for the third straight month, up 5.3% to \$1.6 billion in February. The 19.3% countervailing duties imposed in August expired in mid-December, giving Canadian lumber producers a temporary reprieve. This, combined with strong US housing starts, pushed lumber exports, mainly of softwood to the United States, up 7.6% to just over \$1 billion in February.

Exports of newsprint and other paper and paperboard bounced back from three consecutive months of decline with a 12.0% increase in February to \$1.0 billion, mainly on the strength of a 30.3% jump in exports of newsprint. The increase, which marked a return to normal levels, followed significant production downtime and lower consumption by newspapers and magazines through most of the latter half of 2001.

Newsprint prices had also fallen significantly over the past year.

Imports rise in all sectors but energy

Auto manufacturers cranked up production in February, following numerous mid-winter plant shutdowns in North America. Consequently, imports of motor vehicle parts surged 13.4% to \$3.7 billion. The increase in parts, which accounts for more than half of Canada's automotive product imports, was largely responsible for a 6.9% jump in the sector to \$6.4 billion. Passenger autos and chassis imports rose a more modest 1.3% to \$1.8 billion in February, but imports of trucks and other motor vehicles fell 5.1% to \$891.1 million.

In the consumer goods sector, imports increased 5.1% to \$3.8 billion. Economic conditions resulting in strong housing starts and real estate sales in Canada translated into record imports of home furnishings in February. They have climbed 9.1% since November to \$561.7 million. The most significant gains were in imports of home entertainment merchandise, which jumped 17.4% to \$190.6 million, and home electronics, which rose 5.1% to \$242.7 million.

Imports of machinery and equipment, Canada's largest import sector, rose 5.3% to \$8.8 billion in February. Within this sector, imports of aircraft and other transportation equipment bounced back 22.9% to \$1.2 billion as commercial carriers invested in new aircraft and equipment. Other communication and related equipment, which includes telecommunications equipment and semi-conductors, posted a third straight monthly increase, up 7.6% to \$1.4 billion in February. Office machine and equipment imports fell a slight 0.3% to \$1.4 billion.

The industrial and agricultural machinery sector also showed renewed strength, increasing 3.1% to \$2.3 billion. In February, imports of metalworking machinery provided most of the positive momentum within this sector, rising 39.9% to just under a quarter billion dollars.

Industrial goods and materials, Canada's third largest import sector, jumped 5.3% in February to \$5.9 billion, mainly on strong growth in the metals and metal ores sub-sector. Metals and metal ores increased 20.0% to \$1.6 billion; other industrial goods and materials rose 1.6% to \$2.2 billion while chemicals and plastics fell a slight 0.2% to \$2.1 billion.

The value of energy product imports fell 8.4% to \$1.1 billion. Crude petroleum imports rose 6.5% to \$785.9 million, but all other energy products fell more than one-third to \$277.6 million.

Available on CANSIM: tables 226-0001, 226-0002, 227-0001, 227-0002, 228-0001 to 228-0003 and 228-0033 to 228-0040.

This release contains a summary of the merchandise trade data to be published shortly in *Canadian international merchandise trade* (65-001-XIB, \$14/\$141; 65-001-XPB, \$19/\$188). The publication will include tables by commodity and country on a customs basis. Current account data (which incorporate merchandise trade statistics, service transactions, investment income and transfers) are available quarterly in *Canada's balance of international payments* (67-001-XIB, \$29/\$93; 67-001-XPB, \$38/\$124). See *How to order products*.

Merchandise trade data are available by fax on the morning of release.

An annual review of 2001 will be included in the International Trade Division's annual publications *Exports, merchandise trade* (65-202-XPB, \$258) and *Imports, merchandise trade* (65-203-XPB, \$258), which will be available in June.

For more information on the publications, contact Jocelyne Elibani, (613-951-9647; 1-800-294-5583). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Daryl Keen (613-951-1810), International Trade Division. □

Merchandise trade

	January 2002 ^r	February 2002	January to February 2002	February 2001 to February 2002	January to February 2001	January to February 2002	January-February 2001 to January-February 2002
Seasonally adjusted, \$ current							
	\$ millions		% change		\$ millions		% change
Principal trading partners							
Exports							
United States	28,072	28,531	1.6	-7.6	63,841	56,603	-11.3
Japan	640	709	10.8	-17.0	1,732	1,349	-22.1
European Union	1,774	2,089	17.8	12.1	3,767	3,863	2.5
Other OECD countries ¹	804	791	-1.6	13.3	1,606	1,595	-0.7
All other countries	1,511	1,572	4.0	3.8	3,193	3,083	-3.4
Total	32,802	33,691	2.7	-5.9	74,138	66,493	-10.3
Imports							
United States	20,410	20,902	2.4	-3.1	43,218	41,312	-4.4
Japan	776	936	20.6	3.9	1,789	1,712	-4.3
European Union	2,545	2,919	14.7	1.0	6,015	5,464	-9.2
Other OECD countries ¹	1,479	1,584	7.1	-0.1	3,224	3,063	-5.0
All other countries	2,506	2,802	11.8	16.4	5,238	5,308	1.3
Total	27,717	29,142	5.1	-0.7	59,486	56,859	-4.4
Balance							
United States	7,662	7,629	...	...	20,623	15,291	...
Japan	-136	-227	...	...	-57	-363	...
European Union	-771	-830	...	...	-2,248	-1,601	...
Other OECD countries ¹	-675	-793	...	...	-1,618	-1,468	...
All other countries	-995	-1,230	...	...	-2,045	-2,225	...
Total	5,085	4,549	...	...	14,652	9,634	...
Principal commodity groupings							
Exports							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,585	2,695	4.3	11.7	4,844	5,280	9.0
Energy products	2,987	3,071	2.8	-50.5	13,570	6,058	-55.4
Forestry products	2,889	3,098	7.2	-5.5	6,682	5,987	-10.4
Industrial goods and materials	5,523	5,848	5.9	7.7	11,139	11,371	2.1
Machinery and equipment	8,737	8,035	-8.0	-5.4	17,751	16,772	-5.5
Automotive products	7,396	8,286	12.0	13.0	14,893	15,682	5.3
Other consumer goods	1,490	1,406	-5.6	6.0	2,633	2,896	10.0
Special transactions trade ²	670	683	1.9	-8.3	1,455	1,353	-7.0
Other balance of payments adjustments	525	569	8.4	-3.1	1,172	1,094	-6.7
Imports							
Agricultural and fishing products	1,779	1,803	1.3	10.9	3,286	3,582	9.0
Energy products	1,162	1,064	-8.4	-34.3	3,429	2,226	-35.1
Forestry products	249	250	0.4	1.2	502	499	-0.6
Industrial goods and materials	5,558	5,850	5.3	-2.9	11,965	11,408	-4.7
Machinery and equipment	8,323	8,764	5.3	-10.4	20,126	17,087	-15.1
Automotive products	6,014	6,430	6.9	16.5	11,112	12,444	12.0
Other consumer goods	3,612	3,795	5.1	9.6	6,965	7,407	6.3
Special transactions trade ²	510	648	27.1	15.3	1,073	1,158	7.9
Other balance of payments adjustments	510	538	5.5	3.9	1,030	1,048	1.7

^r Revised figures.

... Figures not appropriate or not applicable.

¹ Includes Australia, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, Turkey, Poland, South Korea, Hungary, Czech Republic and Slovakia.

² These are mainly low-valued transactions, value of repairs to equipment, and goods returned to country of origin.

Monthly Survey of Manufacturing

February 2002

Resilient consumer demand helped soften the economic downturn, and encouraging signs are now emerging in the manufacturing sector. Manufacturing shipments rose 0.8% to \$42.1 billion in February, driven by the resurgence of the motor vehicle industry. This followed January's 3.2% surge.

As well, manufacturers drew down their inventories 0.1%, the ninth consecutive decline. Since late 2000, slumping global demand contributed to manufacturers' struggle to clear their finished-product inventories. The sharp slowdown in shipments since the summer of 2000 was the result of manufacturers' efforts to bring finished-product inventories more in line with production. Recent gains in employment, signs of recovering industrial demand and stronger consumer confidence were early indications of an improving manufacturing sector. February's increase was the first back-to-back monthly gain in two years.

Higher shipments, coupled with the continued decline in inventories, reduced the inventory-to-shipment ratio to 1.47, the lowest level in just over one year. The ratio is a key measure of how long it would take to deplete inventories at the current pace of shipments.

Shipments by province and territory

	Jan. 2002	Feb. 2002	Jan.-Feb. 2002
Seasonally adjusted			
	\$ millions		% change
Newfoundland and Labrador	189	183	-2.9
Prince Edward Island	108	107	-0.9
Nova Scotia	693	713	2.8
New Brunswick	933	895	-4.0
Quebec	9,979	10,022	0.4
Ontario	22,280	22,570	1.3
Manitoba	977	957	-2.0
Saskatchewan	623	584	-6.2
Alberta	3,278	3,254	-0.7
British Columbia	2,675	2,801	4.7
Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut	4	5	22.8

February's rise was concentrated in the motor vehicle industry. Shipments of motor vehicles, which had fallen in December and January, jumped 9.1% to \$5.5 billion in February — the highest level since May 2001. Excluding the impact of the motor vehicle industry, total shipments decreased 0.3%. Wood products (+6.0%) and fabricated metal products (+3.4%) also contributed to the increase. February's advance was not as wide-ranging as January's; only 11 of 22 industries, representing 71% of total shipments, reported higher values. As well, just four provinces (Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia) and the Territories saw gains in February.

Note to readers

In addition to current-month estimates, data for the previous three months are regularly revised. Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of company data, incorrect information reported earlier, replacement of estimates with actual figures (once available), and seasonal adjustments. Consult the appropriate CANSIM tables for revised data.

Unfilled orders are a stock of orders that will contribute to future shipments assuming that the orders are not cancelled.

New orders are those received whether shipped in the current month or not. They are measured as the sum of shipments for the current month plus the change in unfilled orders. Some people interpret new orders as orders that will lead to future demand. This is inappropriate since the "new orders" variable includes orders that have already been shipped. The month-to-month change in new orders may be volatile, particularly if the previous month's change in unfilled orders is large in relation to the current month's change.

Not all orders will be translated into Canadian factory shipments because portions of large contracts can be subcontracted out to manufacturers in other countries.

February's increase in shipments contributed to the improvement of the trend. Since levelling off during the first half of 2001, the trend has been gradually recovering in recent months.

Unfilled orders were up in February for the first time in six months, another sign that the manufacturing sector may be emerging from its recent slump. Unfilled orders rose 0.5% to \$46.7 billion. Throughout 2001, weak demand and market uncertainty contributed to a shortfall in unfilled orders. In February, new orders rose 2.2% to \$42.3 billion, the third increase in four months.

With new orders at their highest since the summer of 2001, manufacturers were hiring once again. According to the Labour Force Survey, nearly 100,000 manufacturing jobs were created in the first quarter of 2002. Employment in manufacturing rose 13,400 in March, following significant advances of 61,600 in February and 24,600 in January.

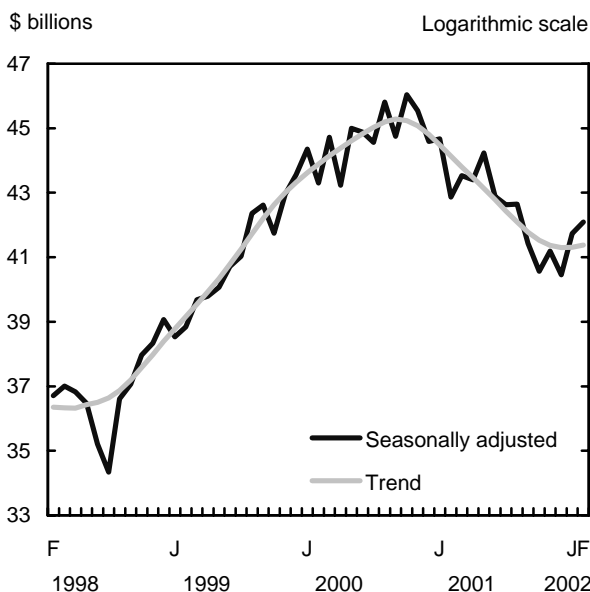
Motor vehicles drive up February shipments

Motor vehicle shipments surged 9.1% to \$5.5 billion in February, more than offsetting 0.7% declines in both December and January. Shipments recovered strongly as several plants returned to more normal production levels, following slowdowns and temporary shutdowns. Improved consumer confidence, encouraged by low interest rates, employment gains and manufacturers' incentive programs, propelled the sales of new motor vehicles to record levels in December and January, as noted by the recent release of new motor vehicle sales data. With motor vehicle shipments at their highest since May 2001, the trend has shown positive signs lately.

Shipments of wood products rose 6.0% to \$2.5 billion, the highest level since May 2000. A flourishing housing market contributed to the steady rise in shipments since December. As noted in the latest release of the Building Permits Survey, housing construction intentions broke an annual record in 2001, and that momentum has spilled over into 2002. Lower mortgage rates, high consumer confidence and the scarcity of existing dwellings helped push potential buyers toward the new-home market.

The recently announced US duties on Canadian softwood lumber exports may be another contributing factor. The higher duties will come into effect in May. As well, there have been reports that the recent surge in wood product shipments has contributed to rail car shortages in Canada. Fabricated metal product shipments climbed 3.4% to \$2.4 billion, the second increase in a row.

Shipments rise for the second straight month



The beverage and tobacco products industry reported an 11.2% decrease in February to \$1.0 billion, slightly offsetting the overall increase in shipments. Shipments returned to more normal levels following higher-than-usual demand in January, which contributed to record high shipments of \$1.2 billion for the month.

Manufacturers continue to draw down finished-product inventories

For the ninth consecutive month, manufacturers continued to draw down their inventories. Although they slipped just 0.1% to \$62.0 billion in February, inventories were at their lowest since May 2000, and have fallen 5.7% since peaking at \$65.8 billion in November 2000. This is the longest string of monthly inventory decreases since 14 consecutive cuts were reported in 1991 and 1992. The trend for inventories has been declining since April 2001.

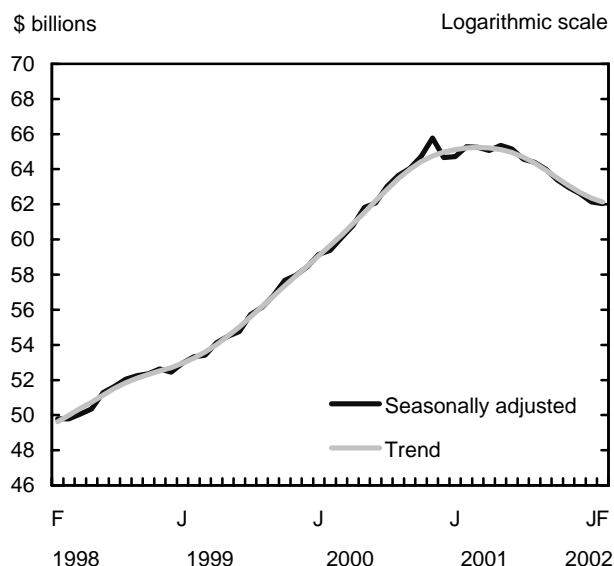
Manufacturers struggled to lower their finished-product inventories in 2001, in the wake of lower global demand and heightened economic uncertainty. According to the January 2002 Quarterly Business Conditions Survey, almost one-third of manufacturers said their finished-product inventories remained too high. Since early 2001, the manufacturing sector has been hit hard by cuts in production, plant shutdowns and layoffs, as shipments and inventories fell. Finished-product inventories decreased 0.5% in February, the seventh decline in eight months; the trend has been easing downward since June 2001.

Goods-in-process inventories decreased 0.2% in February, but raw material inventories edged up 0.1%.

The computer and electronic products industry was the primary contributor to February's decline. With few signs of recovery in this industry, manufacturers pared down inventories 1.8% to \$5.2 billion. This third consecutive decrease was led by lower raw material and finished-products inventories. The continuing slump in domestic and international demand for telecommunications equipment contributed to a 24.7% decline in inventory holdings since they peaked at \$6.9 billion in November 2000. The inventory-to-shipment ratio for the computer industry continued to decrease in February (3.02) since peaking in October 2001, although it remained high by recent standards.

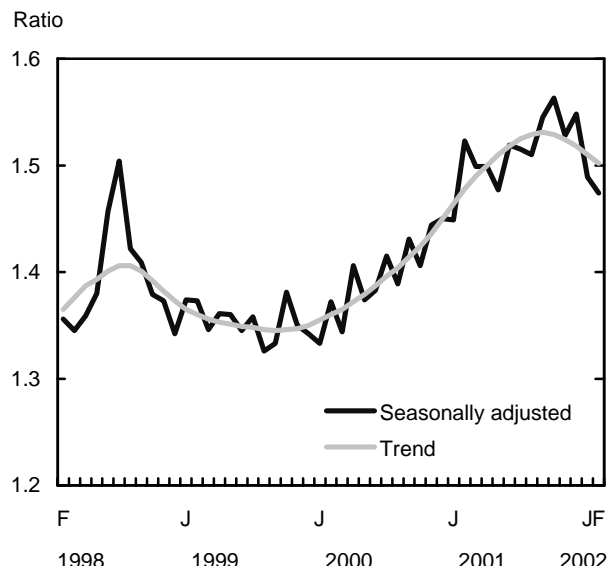
Manufacturers of primary metal products have gradually scaled back their inventory holdings throughout 2001. February inventories were \$4.5 billion, down 1.2% from January. As well, the railroad rolling stock industry reported a 3.6% decrease in inventories, following January's 3.0% drop. Manufacturers have been cutting their goods-in-process inventories since the final quarter of 2000.

Widespread increases in the non-metallic mineral products industry (+4.6%) and the fabricated metal products industry (+1.4%) partly offset the overall decrease in total inventories in February.

Inventories down for ninth consecutive month

The inventory-to-shipment ratio dropped for the second straight month in February to 1.47. Higher shipments, countered by gradually decreasing inventories, contributed to the decline. This was the lowest ratio since January 2001; declining production throughout 2001 contributed to lowering inventories. The trend of the inventory-to-shipment ratio, which had been consistently climbing since late 1999, showed signs of levelling off in recent months.

In February, the finished-products inventory-to-shipment ratio remained constant at 0.46 for a second month. The ratio, which had been rising since mid-2000, has also showed signs of moderation since last autumn as manufacturers succeeded in lowering their finished-product inventories.

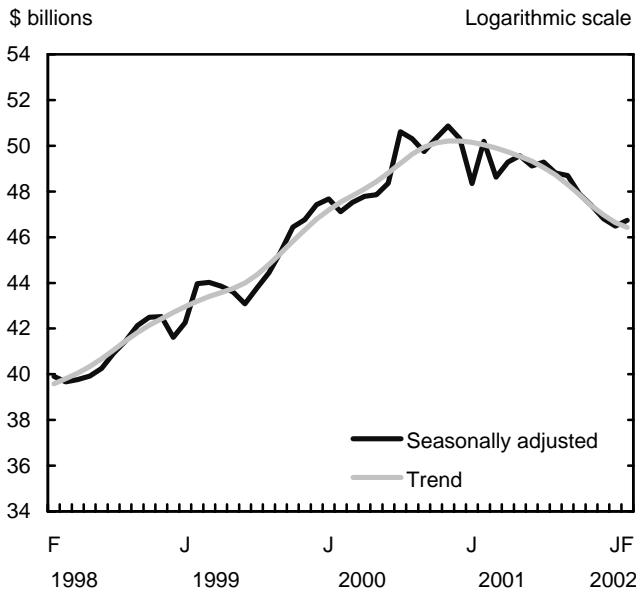
Higher shipments push down inventory-to-shipment ratio to 13-month low**Unfilled orders rise for the first time since July 2001**

Manufacturers reported higher unfilled orders in February for the first time in seven months, another early sign that manufacturing may be improving. Recent increases in manufacturing employment and growing confidence among consumers and businesses contributed to February's 0.5% increase in unfilled orders to \$46.7 billion. The trend, which has been declining since late 2000, has also showed signs of moderating in recent months. Despite February's rise, unfilled orders remain well off their apex of \$50.9 billion reached in November 2000.

The machinery and primary metals industries were the main contributors to February's increase. Unfilled orders for machinery showed significant resilience during the latter half of 2001, although they slipped in January. Unfilled orders rose 3.1% in February to \$7.0 billion, the sixth increase in seven months and their highest level since March 2000. Iron and steel mill manufacturers have reported a surge in orders in recent months, contributing to a 3.7% increase in unfilled orders of primary metals for February, the third straight rise.

However, orders for the aerospace product and parts industry declined in February for the fifth straight month. Orders contracted to \$19.5 billion, the lowest since March 2001 and down 9.7% from the industry's peak in July 2001 (\$21.5 billion). Global market uncertainty in the aerospace sector continued to fuel hesitation about placing orders.

Unfilled orders climb in February



New orders gained 2.2% in February to \$42.3 billion, the second successive increase, and the highest level since July 2001. New orders had been generally declining since late 2000, but showed signs of renewal in February.

Available on CANSIM: tables 304-0014 and 304-0015.

The February 2002 issue of the *Monthly Survey of Manufacturing* (31-001-XIB, \$15/\$147) will be available shortly. See *How to order products*.

Data for shipments by province in greater detail than normally published may be available on request. To order data, or for general information, 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 Russell Kowaluk (613-951-0600; kowarus@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Shipments, inventories and orders in all manufacturing industries

	Shipments		Inventories		Unfilled orders		New orders		Inventories- to-shipments ratio
	Seasonally adjusted								
	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	
February 2001	42,868	-4.0	65,287	0.9	50,186	3.8	44,701	4.6	1.52
March 2001	43,535	1.6	65,239	-0.1	48,634	-3.1	41,983	-6.1	1.50
April 2001	43,397	-0.3	65,071	-0.3	49,277	1.3	44,040	4.9	1.50
May 2001	44,231	1.9	65,350	0.4	49,570	0.6	44,524	1.1	1.48
June 2001	42,886	-3.0	65,146	-0.3	49,121	-0.9	42,437	-4.7	1.52
July 2001	42,633	-0.6	64,585	-0.9	49,292	0.3	42,804	0.9	1.51
August 2001	42,651	0.0	64,404	-0.3	48,806	-1.0	42,165	-1.5	1.51
September 2001	41,429	-2.9	63,998	-0.6	48,694	-0.2	41,317	-2.0	1.54
October 2001	40,570	-2.1	63,392	-0.9	47,880	-1.7	39,756	-3.8	1.56
November 2001	41,190	1.5	62,954	-0.7	47,401	-1.0	40,712	2.4	1.53
December 2001	40,456	-1.8	62,607	-0.6	46,796	-1.3	39,851	-2.1	1.55
January 2002	41,738	3.2	62,133	-0.8	46,490	-0.7	41,432	4.0	1.49
February 2002	42,092	0.8	62,048	-0.1	46,745	0.5	42,346	2.2	1.47

Manufacturing industries except motor vehicle, parts and accessories

	Shipments		Inventories		Unfilled orders		New orders	
	Seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change
February 2001	35,606	-4.0	61,808	0.9	48,426	3.9	37,418	6.3
March 2001	35,882	0.8	61,782	-0.0	46,949	-3.1	34,405	-8.1
April 2001	35,520	-1.0	61,652	-0.2	47,610	1.4	36,182	5.2
May 2001	35,891	1.0	61,919	0.4	47,952	0.7	36,232	0.1
June 2001	34,994	-2.5	61,765	-0.2	47,544	-0.8	34,587	-4.5
July 2001	34,744	-0.7	61,172	-1.0	47,738	0.4	34,938	1.0
August 2001	35,009	0.8	61,022	-0.2	47,211	-1.1	34,481	-1.3
September 2001	33,758	-3.6	60,729	-0.5	47,150	-0.1	33,697	-2.3
October 2001	33,312	-1.3	60,111	-1.0	46,427	-1.5	32,589	-3.3
November 2001	33,555	0.7	59,667	-0.7	45,946	-1.0	33,704	1.5
December 2001	32,867	-2.0	59,322	-0.6	45,283	-1.4	32,204	-2.6
January 2002	34,069	3.7	58,701	-1.0	44,896	-0.9	33,682	4.6
February 2002	33,931	-0.4	58,630	-0.1	45,171	0.6	34,207	1.6

OTHER RELEASES

Export and import price indexes

February 2002

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (1997=100) on a balance of payments basis are now available. Price indexes are listed from February 1997 to February 2002 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups (62 exports and 61 imports).

Current- and fixed-weighted US price indexes (1997=100) are also available on a customs basis. Price indexes are listed from February 1997 to February 2002. Included with the US commodity indexes are the 10 all-countries and US-only Standard International Trade Classification section indexes.

Indexes for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups are also now available on a customs basis.

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001, 228-0003 and 228-0033 to 228-0040.

The February 2002 issue of *Canadian international merchandise trade* (65-001-XIB, \$14/\$141 or 65-001-XPB, \$19/\$188) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

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. ■

Restaurants, caterers and taverns

February 2002

Total receipts of restaurants, caterers and taverns in February were an estimated \$2.38 billion, up 2.9% over the February 2001 estimate.

Available on CANSIM: table 355-0001.

The February 2002 issue of *Restaurant, caterer and tavern statistics* (63-011-XIE, \$6/\$55) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bill Birbeck (613-951-3506), Services Industries Division. ■

High-tech boom and bust

2001

After four years of strong employment growth, the bubble burst in the computer and telecommunications (CT) sector in 2001.

The CT sector accounted for only 4% of total employment in Canada in 2001. However, the drastic decline in jobs last year wiped out more than one-third of net employment gains recorded by other sectors, according to a new study.

CT companies employed an average of 608,000 people in the fourth quarter, down 5% from the fourth quarter of 2000.

Between these two quarters, CT employment fell 35,000. However, the non-CT sectors of the economy posted a net gain of 101,000 jobs, or 1%, during the same period.

In addition, the net number of hours worked in the sector declined by about 2.1 million (-9%) in the fourth quarter compared with the fourth quarter of 2000. The non-CT sector saw a net loss of 12.9 million hours (-3%).

Job growth in the sector had been extremely strong before 2001. From the fourth quarter of 1996 to the fourth quarter of 2000, CT employment rose 211,000 (+49%), and the number of hours worked in the sector grew 8 million (+51%). These rates of growth were three to four times greater than for the economy as a whole.

However, beginning in January 2001, employment growth slowed in a number of sectors, and CT was particularly hard hit. From its peak in March to its low point in October, CT employment tumbled 61,000, or 9%. In communications equipment manufacturing, employment fell 36% during this period.

In the fourth quarter of 2001, almost two-thirds of all CT workers were men. Despite this, the CT employment decline affected women (-20,000) more than men (-14,000).

About two-thirds of all CT workers in Canada are employed in Toronto, Montréal, Vancouver and Ottawa-Gatineau. During the 1997-2000 boom, CT employment in these centres rose a substantial 64%. However, employment fell dramatically in 2001, and some areas, such as the national capital region and Toronto, were hit harder than others because of different characteristics of the CT workforces.

Note: The computer and telecommunications (CT) sector is a subset of the more widely known information

and communication technology (ICT) sector. Because neither of Statistics Canada's main employment surveys — the Labour Force Survey and the Survey of Employment, Payrolls and Hours — can fully explore ICT employment, the CT sector, which covers roughly 88% of ICT employment, has been used in this analysis.

The article "High-tech boom and bust" is now available in the April online issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*, Vol. 3, no. 4 (75-001-XIE, \$5/\$48). See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Geoff Bowlby (613-951-3325; geoff.bowlby@statcan.ca), Labour Statistics Division. ■

Criminal prosecutions personnel and expenditures 2000/01

Federal and provincial governments spent \$335.4 million prosecuting criminals in 2000/01, up from \$278.3 million in 1998/99. In general, increases in expenditures are the result of negotiated salary and benefit increases, including retroactive payouts.

At the provincial level, salaries and benefits accounted for 80% of spending, unchanged since 1998/99. At the federal justice department, they accounted for 51%, also unchanged.

Criminal prosecution branches employed more than 3,600 people across Canada in 2000/01, up 15% since 1998/99. Six out of 10 of these employees were staff lawyers. Most of the remainder were clerical support staff, as well as some paralegal workers and students.

Women accounted for 43% of all permanent and contract lawyers employed by criminal prosecution branches, up from 38% in 1998/99.

At the national level, the per-capita cost of criminal prosecution services in 2000/01 was \$10.90. Provincial per-capita costs, excluding Quebec and Saskatchewan, ranged from \$6.13 in Prince Edward Island to \$15.37 in British Columbia. Per-capita costs for Quebec were not included in this ranking because they did not take into account the cost of criminal prosecution services in municipal courts. Saskatchewan excluded employee benefits. A range of factors can cause wide variations across the provinces. These factors include crime rates, criminal caseloads, different charge-approval processes, geographic size and population distribution.

The report, *Criminal prosecutions personnel and expenditures*, presents information on the human resources and costs associated with the delivery of criminal prosecution services. It includes data for all provinces as well as Justice Canada, which is responsible for prosecution services in the Yukon,

Nunavut and Northwest Territories, as well as for prosecutions under federal statutes.

The report *Criminal prosecutions personnel and expenditures, 2000/01* (85-402-XIE, \$23) 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 Information and Client Services (613 951-9023; 1 800 387-2231), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics. ■

Road motor vehicle fuel sales volumes 2000 (preliminary)

Data on the volume of gasoline (in litres) sold in Canada are now available. The information provides both gross and net annual volume figures — gross is the total volume sold and net is the volume on which taxes were paid — from 1996 to 2000 inclusive. Breakdowns by province and territory and by month are also available. Annual sales volumes between 1996 and 2000 are also provided by province for diesel and liquefied petroleum gas.

Available on CANSIM: tables 405-0002 and 405-0003.

To obtain data, or to inquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jean-Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; laroque@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Duration of multiple jobholding 1996 to 1999

One out of every 10 people employed between 1996 and 1999 held down at least two jobs during any given year, according to a new study of multiple jobholding. The analytical article, "Duration of multiple jobholding," available today in the online edition of *Perspectives on labour and income*, examines this relatively small but important element of the labour market.

Multiple jobholding tended to be relatively short-term. Of the 1.3 million who held multiple jobs in 1996, 88% had stopped by the end of 1999. These individuals held more than one job for a median duration of eight months. But almost one-third of those who stopped holding multiple jobs resumed the practice within the study period.

For the small segment of the workforce holding more than one job, this arrangement had become part of their lifestyle. One in 10 multiple jobholders in 1996 were carrying more than one job for at least four years.

Those who held multiple jobs for the long term differed considerably from those who did so for a shorter

time. For example, 62% of long-term multiple jobholders were self-employed in their primary or secondary job, compared with only 23% of those who held a second job for six months or less.

Long-term multiple jobholders were, on average, more likely to be older and married. They were also more likely to be working longer hours and have higher hourly earnings (\$11.45) than short-term multiple jobholders (\$7.20).

Women were also more likely to be multiple jobholders. For example, annual average data from the Labour Force Survey for 1999 show that 4.4% of employed men held down more than one job, compared with 5.6% of women. In the same year, the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics estimated that 7.3% of men experienced at least one episode of multiple jobholding, compared with 10.1% of women.

Multiple jobholders tended to be younger and better educated — 54% had some form of postsecondary education. The median age among multiple jobholders was 33, compared with 38 among workers with one job.

Workers under 35 were the most likely to claim household expenses or debts as the main reason for

holding more than one job. Those aged 45 and over were most likely to answer that they enjoyed the work.

Among the provinces, the highest multiple jobholding rates occurred in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, where 15% of the employed held two or more jobs at least once in 1996. This rate was not unexpected, given that these provinces have high levels of people who work in agriculture and hold second jobs off the farm.

The Atlantic region also had a high proportion of short-term multiple jobholders. This could be due to higher-than-average employment levels in the top three seasonal industries: fishing and trapping, logging and forestry, and construction.

The article "Duration of multiple jobholding" is now available in the April online issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*, Vol. 3 no. 4 (75-001-XIE, \$5/\$48). See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Katherine Marshall (613-951-6890; katherine.marshall@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division. ■

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Editor: Tom Vradenburg (613-951-1103, tom.vradenburg@statcan.ca)

Head of Official Release: Madeleine Simard (613-951-1088), madeleine.simard@statcan.ca

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