



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, July 18, 2002

Released at 8:30 am Eastern time

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Investment in non-residential building construction, second quarter 2002** 3
Governments strengthened their spending on non-residential building construction in the second quarter, but investment by the business sector declined sharply.
- **Workplace and Employee Survey: Better jobs in the new economy?, 1999** 6
Workers in knowledge-based industries receive relatively high wages, have good fringe benefits and often benefit from fitness and recreation services as well as employee assistance programs. However, many work fairly long hours, and those employed in the service sector rarely have access to a formal grievance system in their workplace.

(continued on page 2)



Canadian economic observer July 2002

The July issue of Statistics Canada's flagship publication for economic statistics, *Canadian economic observer*, analyses current economic conditions and summarizes the major economic events that occurred in June. A separate statistical summary contains a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and the major industrial nations.

The *Historical statistical supplement* is also available today. It contains annual historical data for all series reported monthly in *Canadian economic observer*.

The July 2002 issue of *Canadian economic observer*, Vol. 15, no. 7 (11-010-XPB, \$23/\$227) and *Canadian economic observer — Historical statistical supplement*, 2001/02, Vol. 16 (11-210-XIB, \$21; 11-210-XPB, \$28) are now available. See *How to order products*. Visit the Canadian economic observer's page on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca). From the *Canadian statistics* page, choose *Economic conditions*, and on that page see the banner ad for *Canadian economic observer*. For more information, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627; ceo@statcan.ca), Current Economic Analysis Group.



OTHER RELEASES

Travel between Canada and other countries, May 2002	8
Energy supply and demand, second quarter 2001	9
Gambling: An update, 2001	10
Family income, 2000	10
Internet service provider industry, 2000	12
Falling behind, 1998	12
Families on the financial edge, 1984 to 1999	13
Construction Union Wage Rate Index, June 2002	14

NEW PRODUCTS

MAJOR RELEASES

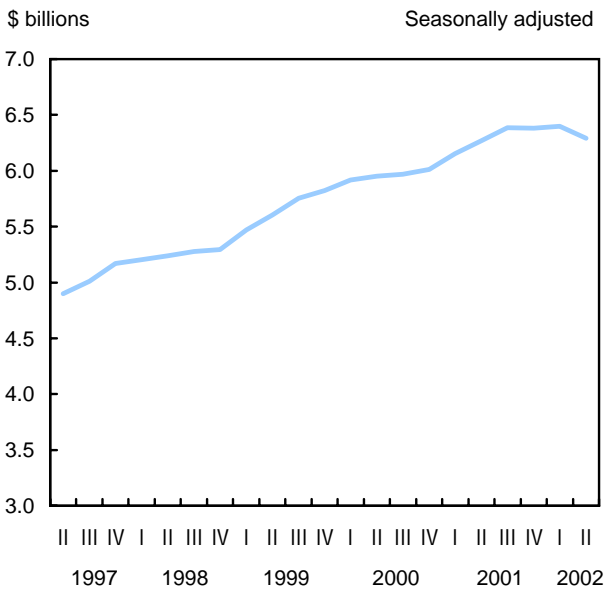
Investment in non-residential building construction

Second quarter 2002

Governments strengthened their spending on non-residential building construction in the second quarter, but investment by the business sector declined sharply.

Overall, businesses and governments spent nearly \$6.3 billion in the second quarter, down 1.7% from the first.

Decline in non-residential building construction



Government investment in institutional projects rose 6.5% to \$1.8 billion in the second quarter, which accounted for 29% of the total quarterly investment.

However, business sector investment in both industrial and commercial projects fell for the third straight quarter. Total business spending declined 4.6% from the first quarter to \$4.5 billion, mainly the result of higher vacancy rates in rental space in several metropolitan regions.

Investment in industrial projects decreased 6.5% to \$1.2 billion, and the value of commercial investment fell 4.0% to \$3.3 billion.

Note to readers

This release presents seasonally adjusted data (unless otherwise stated), which ease comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations. Investments in non-residential building construction exclude engineering construction. This series is based on the Building Permits Survey of municipalities, which collects information on construction intentions.

Work put in place patterns are assigned to each type of structure (industrial, commercial and institutional). These work patterns are used to distribute the value of building permits according to project length. Work put in place patterns differ according to the value of the construction project; a project worth several million dollars will usually take longer to complete than will a project of some hundred thousand dollars.

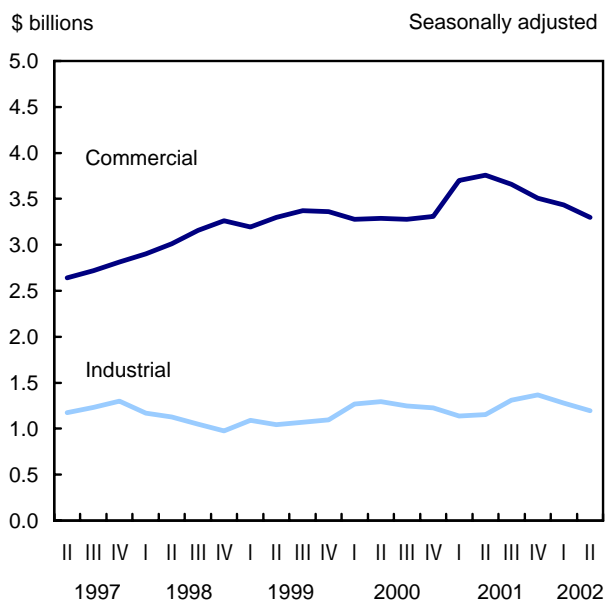
Additional data from the Survey of Private and Public Investment are used to create this investment series. Investment in non-residential building data is benchmarked to Statistics Canada's System of National Accounts of non-residential building investment series.

Investment in non-residential building construction, by census metropolitan area

	Second quarter 2001	First quarter 2002	Second quarter 2002	First quarter to second quarter 2002
Seasonally adjusted				
	\$ millions		% change	
Total	4,591	4,341	4,266	-1.7
Abbotsford	17	26	30	15.1
Calgary	295	275	259	-5.8
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	25	31	26	-14.0
Edmonton	174	194	169	-13.0
Halifax	78	34	29	-16.3
Hamilton	137	161	164	1.5
Hull	69	38	37	-3.5
Kingston	10	14	18	24.5
Kitchener	124	164	185	13.0
London	87	154	168	9.3
Montréal	827	894	925	3.5
Oshawa	57	54	57	4.3
Ottawa	368	329	296	-10.0
Québec	124	157	159	1.4
Regina	52	33	25	-23.3
Saint John	32	20	16	-18.3
Saskatoon	52	58	51	-11.5
Sherbrooke	33	26	27	0.5
St. Catharines-Niagara	79	84	79	-5.8
St. John's	35	25	23	-9.2
Sudbury	33	42	54	28.8
Thunder Bay	39	38	73	93.1
Toronto	1,198	912	840	-7.9
Trois-Rivières	23	26	24	-6.9
Vancouver	414	377	353	-6.4
Victoria	63	47	48	0.8
Windsor	67	68	81	19.6
Winnipeg	80	61	52	-15.1

At the provincial level, non-residential investment in the second quarter rose \$62 million in Quebec, the strongest increase (in dollar terms). Investment fell in Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Yukon and Northwest Territories.

Declining investment trends in the business sector



Non-residential investment in census metropolitan areas declined 1.7% in the second quarter, falling in 15 out of 28 CMAs. The metropolitan areas of Montréal and Thunder Bay had the highest increases (in dollar terms); Toronto and Ottawa incurred the largest declines. Montréal reached a record investment of \$925 million, surpassing Toronto for the first time since 1997.

On a year-to-date basis, commercial investment (-9.7%) was the only sector to incur a decline in the first six months of 2002. In contrast, government investment

in the first half of this year was 30.3% higher and industrial investment was 7.7% higher than in the same period of 2001.

Investment in non-residential building construction, by province and territory

	Second quarter 2001	First quarter 2002	Second quarter 2002	First quarter to second quarter 2002
Seasonally adjusted				
	\$ millions		% change	
Canada	6,272	6,398	6,289	-1.7
Newfoundland and Labrador	131	126	68	-46.2
Prince Edward Island	14	58	71	20.9
Nova Scotia	138	97	82	-15.1
New Brunswick	112	123	136	10.4
Quebec	1,410	1,486	1,548	4.2
Ontario	2,690	2,624	2,681	2.2
Manitoba	155	165	167	0.9
Saskatchewan	154	232	174	-25.0
Alberta	760	800	722	-9.7
British Columbia	688	629	593	-5.7
Yukon	9	9	7	-21.2
Northwest Territories	7	43	34	-20.9
Nunavut	2	5	5	8.0

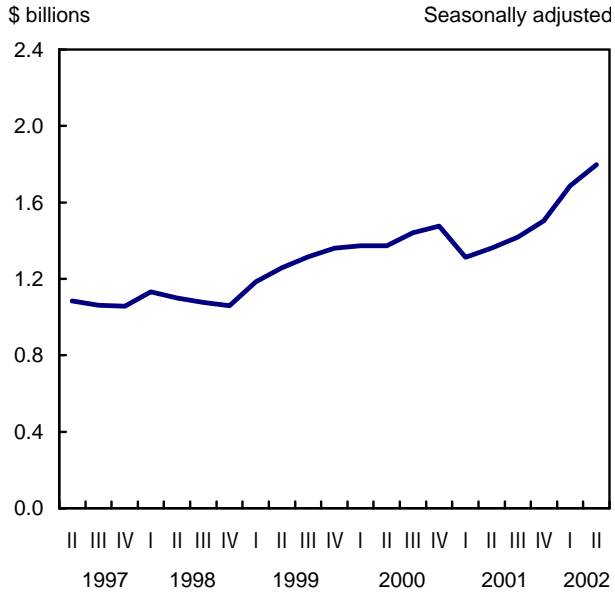
Institutional investments still growing

Governments maintained their funding for several projects during the second quarter. The increase in investments in all types of buildings, with the exception of religious buildings, contributed to the increase in the institutional sector. Hospitals and libraries experienced stronger increases compared with the first quarter.

Ontario posted a record quarterly investment in the institutional sector, rising 22.2% from the first quarter of 2002 and surpassing for the first time the billion dollar level.

Higher investment in categories covering government buildings, hospitals and welfare homes were responsible for this record in Ontario.

Institutional investment continues to rise



Commercial investment posts fourth straight decline

After recording a 4.0% decline in the second quarter, commercial building investments do not appear to have been stimulated by the high level of retail trade since the beginning of 2002. The effects attributed to the higher retail trade may be felt later in the year.

All the categories of building shared the decrease of 4.0% in commercial construction investments, except laboratories and research centres.

On a provincial basis, the largest commercial quarterly decrease was in Ontario (-8.0% to \$1.2 billion). The decrease in office building investments in Toronto and Ottawa for this period was the main reason behind this decrease.

Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Newfoundland and Labrador and New Brunswick were the only provinces to show an increase in this sector.

Slowdown in industrial investment

Investment in industrial building construction declined for the second consecutive quarter, the result of a decrease in all industrial building categories.

The sixth consecutive quarterly declines of the industrial capacity utilization rates from the second quarter of 2000 to the fourth quarter of 2001 might be one negative factor for this type of investment. This long decline in the use of production capacity may have had a negative effect on potential investment, because industries were likely able to respond to demand without a great deal of investment in construction.

On a provincial level, the largest industrial quarterly decreases were in Saskatchewan (-49.0% to \$52 million), Ontario (-5.0% to \$471 million) and Alberta (-10.9% to \$191 million).

New Brunswick and Quebec were the only two provinces to record an increase in industrial investment in the second quarter.

Available on CANSIM: table 026-0016.

More detailed investment data on investment in non-residential building construction is also available in free tables on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca). From *Canadian Statistics*, choose *Latest Indicators*, then *Construction*.

To obtain data, contact Patrick Lemire (613-951-6321; patrick.lemire@statcan.ca). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Valérie Gaudreault (613-951-1165; valerie.gaudreault@statcan.ca), Investment and Capital Stock Division. ■

Workplace and Employee Survey: Better jobs in the new economy?

1999

Workers in knowledge-based industries receive relatively high wages, have good fringe benefits, and often profit from fitness and recreation services as well as employee assistance programs. However, many work fairly long hours, and those employed in the service sector rarely have access to a formal grievance system in their workplace.

These are some of the findings from a new study based on the 1999 Workplace and Employee Survey (WES), available today in the online edition of *Perspectives on labour and income*.

The study compared jobs in industries that produce knowledge-based technologies, products and services with those in the rest of the private sector. In 1999, these industries accounted for just over 7% of employment in the private sector.

More precisely, the study classified industries into five mutually exclusive groups: knowledge-based in the goods sector (4% of private sector employment), knowledge-based in the service sector (3%), other goods-producing (20%), retail trade and consumer services (21%), and professional and other services (51%).

The study examined job characteristics such as work hours, hourly wages, pension coverage, stock options, personal and family support programs, teamwork, performance appraisal, grievance systems, and job satisfaction.

Workers in knowledge-based industries receive relatively high wages

On average, employees in knowledge-based industries earned \$24.09 per hour in 1999, 32% more than the \$18.19 received by employees in other industries. The wage gap between knowledge-based industries and other industries was 14% for university graduates, compared with 31% for other workers with some postsecondary education.

Employees in knowledge-based workplaces earn relatively high wages for a number of reasons. They are generally better educated than other workers and tend to be employed in larger establishments, which generally pay higher wages. They may also receive higher wages to compensate for the relatively high costs of living in larger areas, where such workplaces tend to be located.

Many of these employees are in high-paying professional occupations such as engineering and science. Lastly, some, such as university graduates,

Note to readers

This release is based on analysis in a new study titled "Better jobs in the new economy?" available today. This study uses data from the 1999 Workplace and Employee Survey (WES).

This survey collects a broad range of information on a sample of employers and their employees. It aims to shed light on the relationships between competitiveness, innovation, technology use, and human resource management on the employer side; and technology use, training, job stability, and earnings on the employee side. The WES covers the private sector, that is, all industries except farming, fishing, hunting, trapping and public administration.

*In this release, **knowledge-based industries** are defined as industries that spend a relatively large amount of resources on research and development and have professionals, such as scientists and engineers, as a substantial proportion of their workforce. The definition is restricted to industries that produce knowledge-based technologies, products and services.*

Industries that use but do not produce such technologies are often classified as knowledge-based as well. However, they are not classified as knowledge-based in this release since this study is concerned with jobs in research and development-based firms.

Knowledge-based industries include most but not all industries in the information and communication technology (ICT) sector. These include telecommunications, data processing, computer systems design and related services, and many non-ICT industries such as pharmaceutical and chemical manufacturing.

could receive higher wages as compensation for relatively long hours.

When these factors were taken into account, the hourly wage difference between workers in knowledge-based industries and other workers dropped from 32% to 8%. It is unclear whether the remaining difference reflects a pure wage advantage or, alternatively, a compensation for greater work effort or greater responsibilities.

Workers often have stock options

Employees in knowledge-based industries were not necessarily better covered by a registered pension plan than other workers. For instance, 40% of employees in service-producing, knowledge-based workplaces had a pension plan in 1999, compared with 48% of their counterparts in professional and other services.

However, 31% of employees in service-producing knowledge-based workplaces received stock options, five times the proportion of 6% in professional and other services.

On average, employees in knowledge-based industries were more likely to be covered by life or disability insurance, supplemental medical insurance, and dental plans. They were also more likely to have profit-sharing plans.

Employees often benefit from fitness services and assistance programs

Media reports have suggested that high-tech workplaces offer fitness facilities to help employees cope with the relatively long workhours. The study confirmed this view.

Roughly 25% of employees in knowledge-based industries were in workplaces that provided fitness and recreation services (on- or off-site). The corresponding numbers for other goods-producing industries, professional and other services, and retail trade and consumer services were 15%, 17% and 5% respectively.

In addition, 40% of workers in knowledge-based workplaces were offered employee assistance programs (counselling, substance abuse control, financial assistance, legal aid). Such programs were available to 35%, 29% and 8% of employees in professional and other services, other goods-producing industries, and retail trade and consumer services, respectively.

University graduates in knowledge-based industries work fairly long hours

Compared to their counterparts in the rest of the economy, university graduates employed full time in knowledge-based industries worked either longer hours or more hours of unpaid overtime. Their total workweek, including unpaid overtime, averaged 46.6 hours per week. This was at least 2 hours more than in professional and other services (44.3) or in retail trade and consumer services (44.4).

Although university graduates employed full time in knowledge-based industries did not work longer hours than their counterparts in other goods-producing industries (46.7), they put in more hours of unpaid overtime (5.3 versus 3.7).

These patterns were not observed for all education levels. In fact, the study showed that full-time employees of knowledge-based industries who had some postsecondary education or less did not work, on average, longer hours than their counterparts in other industries.

In the service sector, few have access to a formal grievance system

In 1999, 20% of employees in knowledge-based industries were unionized. This compares with 13% in consumer services and retail trade, and 33% in professional and other services or in other goods-producing industries.

However, there were substantial differences within the knowledge-based sector. About 14% of employees in service-producing workplaces were unionized, compared with 25% in goods-producing workplaces.

As a result, only 18% of workers in service-producing, knowledge-based industries reported having access to a formal grievance system such as a labour-management committee or an outside arbitrator.

In contrast, access to such a system was reported by 46% of those in goods-producing, knowledge-based industries, 41% in professional and other services, and 38% in other goods-producing industries.

Performance appraisal more frequent in knowledge-based industries

At least 65% of employees in knowledge-based industries had their job performance evaluated through a standard process, compared with only 45% to 58% of workers in other industries.

Furthermore, employees in knowledge-based industries were almost twice as likely as other workers to have their level of pay or benefits directly affected by job evaluation results. Thus, work evaluation was more systematic in the knowledge-based sector than in other industries.

The article "Better jobs in the new economy?" is available in the July 2002 online issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*, Vol. 3 no. 7 (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 Marie Drolet (613-951-5691; marie.drolet@statcan.ca) or René Morissette (613-951-3608; rene.morissette@statcan.ca), Business and Labour Market Analysis Division. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Travel between Canada and other countries May 2002

Travel to Canada slipped for the third consecutive month in May, remaining more than 12% below August 2001. Trips to other countries also declined slightly, although more Canadians travelled to overseas countries in May than in any other month since August 2001.

The number of travellers to Canada in the first eight months of 2001 was the highest ever recorded. However, travel to Canada plummeted in the months following September 11. Although numbers showed signs of recovery from December to February, the number of trips to Canada has since continued to gradually slip.

An estimated 3.7 million travellers arrived in Canada in May, down 1.6% from April. The number of trips from the United States fell 1.6%, while the number from overseas countries dropped 2.2%. (Unless otherwise specified, the data are seasonally adjusted).

More than 3.3 million Americans travelled to Canada in May, 12.6% less than in August 2001. The number of same-day car trips from the United States declined 2.4% in May, and the number of overnight car trips fell 3.0% to 878,000. American residents made 302,000 overnight trips to Canada by plane, up 1.4% from April, but still 11.5% below pre-September 11 levels.

In May, 310,000 people from overseas countries visited Canada, 1.6% less than in April and 8.2% less than in August.

Canadian travel abroad declined 0.6% to fewer than 3.2 million trips in May, which was still 17.0% below pre-September levels. Canadians made 2.8 million trips to the United States, down 0.9%. Travel to overseas

countries increased 1.6% to 395,000 trips, the fourth consecutive monthly increase since February. Although travel to overseas countries was still 4.1% below August levels, May's numbers were the highest since that time.

Canadians took 1,055,000 overnight trips south of the border in May, a 0.8% gain from April. Overnight travel by car increased 1.8%, but overnight trips by plane fell 0.6% to 342,000. Overnight car travel remained 2.2% below pre-September 11 levels, while travel by plane remained 16.1% below those levels.

Canadians made 1.7 million same-day car trips to the United States, down 0.8%, the fourth consecutive monthly decline.

Five of Canada's top 12 overseas markets showed increases in same-day and overnight trips to this country in May. Mexico posted the largest monthly increase (+36.4%), followed by Hong Kong (+3.1%), Australia (+2.6%), Switzerland (+1.7%) and Taiwan (+1.5%). The Netherlands recorded the largest decline (-12.4%).

None of the top 12 overseas markets recorded numbers that matched or exceeded figures for August 2001.

Available on CANSIM: tables 427-0001 to 427-0006.

The May 2002 issue of *International travel, advance information*, Vol. 18, no. 5 (66-001-PIE, \$6/\$55) 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 Frances Kremerik (613-951-4240; frances.kremerik@statcan.ca) or Client Services (1-800-307-3382; 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-2909; cult.tourstats@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics. □

Travel between Canada and other countries

	April	May	April	August	May	May
	2002 ^r	2002 ^p	2002	2001 ^r	2002	2001
			to	to	to	
		May	May	May		May
		2002	2002	2002		2002
Seasonally adjusted				Unadjusted		
	'000		% change		'000	% change
Canadian trips abroad¹	3,210	3,191	-0.6	-17.0	3,317	-14.4
To the United States	2,821	2,796	-0.9	-18.5	2,962	-15.5
To other countries	389	395	1.6	-4.1	355	-3.4
Same-day car trips to the United States	1,698	1,685	-0.8	-23.1	1,806	-19.1
Total trips, one or more nights	1,436	1,450	1.0	-7.5	1,455	-7.2
United States ²	1,047	1,055	0.8	-8.8	1,100	-8.4
Car	617	628	1.8	-2.2	624	2.5
Plane	344	342	-0.6	-16.1	359	-16.5
Other modes of transport	87	85	-1.6	-20.2	117	-27.9
Other countries ³	389	395	1.6	-4.1	355	-3.4
Travel to Canada¹	3,722	3,662	-1.6	-12.4	3,852	-10.3
From the United States	3,398	3,345	-1.6	-12.6	3,509	-10.0
From other countries	324	317	-2.2	-9.5	343	-13.4
Same-day car trips from the United States	1,912	1,867	-2.4	-18.6	1,962	-16.3
Total trips, one or more nights	1,654	1,621	-2.0	-3.3	1,685	-1.4
United States ²	1,339	1,311	-2.1	-2.1	1,354	1.5
Car	905	878	-3.0	3.4	861	9.9
Plane	297	302	1.4	-11.5	316	-6.0
Other modes of transport	136	131	-3.5	-11.6	177	-17.7
Other countries ³	315	310	-1.6	-8.2	331	-11.8
Most important overseas markets⁴						
United Kingdom	63	63	0.0	-15.8	67	-13.4
Japan	39	35	-10.0	-8.7	37	-11.2
Germany	25	24	-2.3	-17.9	30	-23.9
France	26	23	-10.2	-23.0	21	-24.0
Mexico	10	14	36.4	-2.5	12	0.8
South Korea	14	13	-3.6	-2.3	14	-5.1
Australia	12	12	2.6	-10.2	16	-19.1
Hong Kong	9	9	3.1	-12.0	11	-12.4
Taiwan	9	9	1.5	-11.7	11	-12.3
Netherlands	10	9	-12.4	-12.0	11	-12.9
China	8	8	-1.8	-1.6	7	4.1
Switzerland	7	7	1.7	-4.7	6	-12.3

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

¹ Totals exceed the sum of "same-day car trips" and "total trips, one or more nights" because they include all of the same-day trips.

² Estimates for the United States include counts of cars and buses, and estimated numbers for planes, trains, boats and other methods.

³ Figures for other countries exclude same-day entries by land only, via the United States.

⁴ Includes same-day and one or more night trips.

Energy supply and demand

Second quarter 2001

Canada consumed 1.7% less energy in the second quarter of 2001 than in the second quarter of 2000. Increases in the final demand for natural gas liquids and petroleum products were primarily offset by decreases in coal and natural gas consumption.

On the production side, total primary energy rose 1.1% from the second quarter of 2000. Increases in the production of natural gas (+3.9%) and petroleum products (+2.2%) resulted primarily from higher exports in the second quarter of 2001 than in the second quarter of 2000.

Energy use by the mining sector fell 3.3% from the second quarter of 2000 and final demand from the manufacturing sector recorded a broad-based decrease of 5.4%.

Exports of primary energy products rose 2.7% in the second quarter of 2001 from the second quarter of 2000. This was primarily the result of higher exports of natural gas and coal.

During the first six months of 2001, production of primary energy products was 1.5% higher than in the same period of 2000. Total exports of primary energy products rose 4.4% and imports (mainly natural

gas) increased 8.7%. Total final demand for energy decreased 1.3%.

Energy supply and demand

	Second quarter 2000 ^f	Second quarter 2001	Second quarter 2000 to second quarter 2001
	Petajoules ¹		% change
Production²	3 822	3 864	1.1
Exports ²	2 023	2 078	2.7
Imports ²	745	757	1.6
Availability ²	2 512	2 478	-1.4
Electricity generation	368	396	7.6
Producer consumption	272	288	5.9
Non-energy use	192	208	8.3
Final demand³	1 673	1 644	-1.7
Industrial	543	516	-5.0
Transportation	565	561	-0.7
Residential and agriculture	299	292	-2.3
Commercial and government	266	275	3.4
Year-to-date			
	2000 ^f	2001	2000 to 2001
	Petajoules ¹		% change
Production²	7 846	7 964	1.5
Exports ²	4 121	4 304	4.4
Imports ²	1 362	1 480	8.7
Availability ²	5 470	5 495	0.5
Electricity generation	787	830	5.5
Producer consumption	611	649	6.2
Non-energy use	368	416	13.0
Final demand³	3 809	3 758	-1.3
Industrial	1 178	1 099	-6.7
Transportation	1 103	1 097	-0.5
Residential and agriculture	855	853	-0.2
Commercial and government	673	708	5.2

^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 are 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. 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 second 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; john.svab@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Gambling: An update 2001

Net revenue from government-run lotteries, video lottery terminals and casinos reached more than \$10.7 billion in 2001, four times the level in 1992, according to new data.

Of the \$10.7 billion generated from government-run gambling, \$6.0 billion was profit. This level was three and a half times the profit of the \$1.7 billion governments realized from gambling in 1992.

On average, every individual aged 18 and over in Canada spent \$424 gambling in 2000, compared with \$130 in 1992. The average varied from a low of \$106 per person in the three territories to a high of \$536 in Manitoba.

Men living alone spent an average of \$1,120 on gambling, more than twice the \$450 spent by women living alone.

The article "Fact-sheet on gambling" is now available free on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca) from the July 2002 online issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*, Vol. 3, no. 7 (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 Henry Pold (613-951-4608; perspectives@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division. ■

Family income 2000

Median family income rose for the fourth straight year in 2000, but it was still slightly less than what a family would have received as income a decade earlier.

The median income of all families rose 2.2% in 2000 to \$51,000 (after adjusting for inflation), continuing the trend of steady increases since 1997. In 1990, median family income was \$51,900. (The median is the point at which half the incomes are higher, and half are lower.)

Except for a slight decline in the Northwest Territories, median total income of families rose in all provinces and territories in 2000.

The median income of lone-parent families increased 5.7%, more than twice the growth rate of 2.0% for husband–wife families.

For husband–wife families, median total income reached \$56,700 in 2000, up from \$55,600 in 1999. The median for lone-parent families rose to \$25,400, up from \$24,000 in 1999 and slightly higher than the level of \$25,200 a decade ago.

In 2000, the median income of lone-parent families represented 45% of that of husband–wife families. This proportion has been rising steadily since 1997 when it was 42%.

Regionally, Ottawa–Hull surpassed Oshawa and Windsor in 2000 as the census metropolitan area with the highest median family income, likely in part because of activity in the high-tech sector at the time. Median family income in Ottawa–Hull was \$65,500, compared with \$64,700 in Oshawa and \$64,200 in Windsor. Ottawa–Hull also recorded the largest increase in median family income (+6.3%).

The number and percentage of dual-earner families continued to increase in 2000. The median employment income of husband–wife families where both spouses or partners earned income rose 1.4% to \$62,500.

Employment income remained the main source of income for families as a whole, accounting for 75% of total income. Government transfers, which include income from the Child Tax Benefit program, Canada

and Quebec pension plans and Old Age Security Supplements, represented 12%. Private pension plans represented 6% and investment income 5%.

Employment income represented 79% of total income for husband–wife families, and 68% of that of lone-parent families. Government transfers represented 22% of a lone-parent family's total income, but only 9% for husband–wife families.

The median income for senior husband–wife families, those in which at least one person was aged 65 or over, rose to \$39,400, up 0.9% from 1999. The income profile of senior husband–wife families differed markedly from that of husband–wife families as a whole.

Senior husband–wife families derived a much lower percentage of their income from employment (22%). An additional 16% came from Old Age Security Supplements, and the Canada and Quebec Pension Plan represented 15%. Private pensions accounted for 25%, and investment income 13%.

Data for this release were obtained primarily from income tax returns filed in the spring of 2001. All income data are before tax and after transfers.

Data for family income (*Family data*, 13C0016, various prices) and seniors' income (*Seniors*, 89C0022, various prices) are available for letter carrier routes, census tracts, urban forward sortation areas (the first three characters of the postal code), cities, towns, federal electoral districts, census divisions, census metropolitan areas, economic regions, provinces, territories and Canada. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (1-866-652-8443; 613-951-9720; fax: 1-866-652-8444 or 613-951-4745; saadinfo@statcan.ca), Small Area and Administrative Data Division. □

Median family income, by census metropolitan area

	2000			1999 to 2000		
	Total	Husband and wife	Lone parent	Total	Husband and wife	Lone parent
	\$			% change		
Canada	51,000	56,700	25,400	2.2	2.0	5.7
St. John's	48,800	56,300	21,200	6.0	5.4	12.8
Halifax	53,400	60,200	23,500	0.6	0.7	5.9
Saint John	47,800	55,200	20,800	0.9	1.8	8.9
Chicoutimi-Jonquière	50,900	55,700	25,200	3.7	4.7	2.7
Québec	53,300	58,200	29,800	2.8	3.0	4.4
Sherbrooke	47,600	52,900	26,300	2.8	3.2	5.8
Trois-Rivières	45,900	51,700	23,800	1.8	2.7	3.4
Montréal	50,000	56,000	26,600	2.3	2.5	5.3
Ottawa-Hull	65,500	72,900	30,500	6.3	5.9	10.4
Oshawa	64,700	71,800	28,900	0.8	0.9	7.0
Toronto	55,000	61,400	29,400	0.3	-0.4	6.8
Hamilton	59,700	65,900	28,000	0.4	0.4	5.3
St. Catharines-Niagara	53,300	59,100	26,200	0.4	0.8	4.1
Kitchener	60,700	66,200	28,700	1.2	1.0	5.4
London	56,200	63,000	26,300	0.6	0.9	5.4
Windsor	64,200	72,000	28,200	0.2	0.3	4.8
Sudbury	54,400	61,300	23,100	1.1	1.8	10.2
Thunder Bay	57,100	63,800	24,500	1.1	1.2	7.0
Winnipeg	52,500	58,400	25,500	1.0	1.2	1.7
Regina	56,600	64,700	25,600	0.6	0.8	1.3
Saskatoon	51,600	58,300	22,600	0.9	0.8	4.3
Calgary	60,700	66,500	30,400	2.2	2.0	5.3
Edmonton	56,300	62,700	26,800	3.2	3.1	5.2
Vancouver	50,100	55,200	26,900	1.4	0.8	3.5
Victoria	55,200	60,800	28,100	2.0	1.7	3.2

Internet service provider industry 2000

Data for 2000 from the Annual Survey of Internet Service Providers and Related Services are now available for Canada. The data provide summary statistics such as revenue, expenses, salaries, wages and benefits, number of firms and number of employees for the Internet service provider industry. Also available are revenues earned by type of service provided, and operating expenses as a percentage of total revenue.

In 2000, the Internet service provider industry earned just over \$1 billion in total revenues. Internet service providers continued to generate the majority of their revenues from the sale of Internet access. Narrowband access services accounted for 59% of industry revenues followed by broadband access services at 26%. In addition, another 4% of the industry's revenues came from Web site hosting services.

Total operating expenses grew to almost \$1.2 billion in 2000. Telecommunications expenses (including leased line charges from upstream providers) remained the largest expense item, comprising 37% of industry expenses, followed by salaries, wages and benefits, which accounted for another 31%.

Note: This survey covers firms that primarily provide Internet access, and whose revenues exceed a low revenue cut-off threshold. It does not include firms coded to the cable and other program distribution industry (North American Industry Classification System 513220).

Available on CANSIM: table 354-0006.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Heather Archibald (613-951-0403; fax: 613-951-6696; heather.archibald@statcan.ca), Service Industries Division.

Falling behind 1998

One in every six families had difficulty keeping up with payments in 1998, according to a new study of families most prone to missing their financial commitments.

Using data from the 1999 Survey of Financial Security, the study examines families that fell two or more months behind in a bill, loan, rent or mortgage payment. It comes as high levels of consumer debt are raising concerns. In October 2001, some 44 million

Visa and MasterCard credit cards were in circulation in Canada, with \$39 billion in outstanding balances, according to the Canadian Bankers Association.

In 1998, almost 38% of families reported having outstanding credit card or instalment debt. Among younger families in which the major income recipient was aged 25 to 34, this proportion rose to 50%.

Even though the economy was strong in 1998, one in six families with a major income recipient aged less than 65 fell behind two months or more in a payment. The difficulty increased with the number of children aged 18 and under living at home — 14% of families with one child fell behind, compared with 20% of those with three or more children. Only 10% of those without children fell behind.

However, after various characteristics were taken into account, the only significantly different family group was female lone-parent families. They were 1.3 times as likely as couples with children to have fallen behind.

About 14% of couples with children who had a mortgage fell behind in a payment, compared with only 6% of those who owned a home mortgage-free.

There appeared to be large differences by after-tax income and net worth. However, after taking other family characteristics into account, these were associated with only small differences in the probability of falling behind.

In addition, having a previous bankruptcy was a significant factor, even after other family characteristics were taken into account. Families with a previous bankruptcy were 1.6 times more likely to have trouble keeping up with their payments. Unattached individuals who had previously declared bankruptcy were twice as likely to have fallen behind.

The article "Falling behind" is available in the July 2002 online issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*, Vol. 3 no. 7 (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 Wendy Pyper (613-951-0381; wendy.pyper@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division. ■

Families on the financial edge

1984 to 1999

The vast majority of low-income families had no more in savings to protect themselves against unexpected financial hardship at the end of the 1990s than their counterparts did in the mid-1980s, according to a new study.

The study showed that neither the median net worth nor financial wealth of low-income families in the bottom 75% of the distributions increased during this 15-year period.

On the other hand, the median net worth of other families increased 14%, and their financial wealth rose 40%. As a result, the wealth gap between low-income families and other families widened during this time frame.

This study, available today in the online version of *Perspectives on labour and income*, examines which families are financially vulnerable in the face of income interruptions or unexpected expenses. It uses data from the 1984 Assets and Debts Survey and 1999 Survey of Financial Security.

The net worth of a family is the difference between its total assets and total debts. Financial wealth is net worth minus net equity in housing and net business equity. It measures the stock of assets a family could use relatively quickly in the event of an emergency without selling its house or its contents, or a business.

As measured by median financial wealth, the typical low-income family had only \$300 to face a financial emergency in 1999.

Some 75% of low-income families had less than \$6,000 in assets that could be liquidated. Another 13% had more than \$6,000. These families, however, had a major income recipient aged at least 45, and so had had a fairly significant period of time to build up their savings.

From 1984 to 1999, the financial wealth of low-income families in the bottom 75% of the financial wealth distribution did not rise. Thus, at the end of the 1990s, the vast majority of low-income families had no more in savings to protect themselves against adverse events than their counterparts did in the mid-1980s.

On the other hand, some groups, such as recent immigrants, became more vulnerable to financial crises. Others, specifically elderly unattached individuals, improved their economic position.

The percentage of individuals living in families with low income and insufficient financial wealth did not decline, even though the population was older at the end of the 1990s than during the mid-1980s and therefore had had more time to accumulate savings.

The article "Families on the financial edge" is available in the July 2002 online issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*, Vol. 3 no. 7 (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 René Morissette (613-951-3608; rene.morissette@statcan.ca), Business and Labour Market Analysis Division. ■

Construction Union Wage Rate Index

June 2002

The Construction Union Wage Rate Index (including supplements) for Canada remained unchanged in June compared with 121.6 in May (1992=100). The composite index rose 2.7% from the June 2001 index.

Union wage rates are published for 16 trades in 20 metropolitan areas for both the basic rates and rates including selected supplementary payments.

Indexes (1992=100) are calculated for the same metropolitan areas and are published for those where a majority of trades are covered by current collective agreements.

Available on CANSIM: tables 327-0003 and 327-0004.

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

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

NEW PRODUCTS

Canadian economic observer, July 2002, Vol. 15,
no. 7
Catalogue number 11-010-XPB (\$23/\$227).

**Canadian economic observer — Historical
statistical supplement**, 2001/02, Vol. 16
Catalogue number 11-210-XIB (\$21).

**Canadian economic observer — Historical
statistical supplement**, 2001/02, Vol. 16
Catalogue number 11-210-XPB (\$28).

International travel, advance information, May 2002,
Vol. 18, no. 5
Catalogue number 66-001-PIE (\$6/\$55).

Perspectives on labour and income, July 2002,
Vol. 3, no. 7
Catalogue number 75-001-XIE (\$5/\$48).

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

Catalogue numbers with an -XIB or an -XIE extension
are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are
microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB are
electronic versions on diskette and -XCB are electronic
versions on compact disc.

How to order products

Order products by phone:

Please refer to the • Title • Catalogue number • Volume number • Issue number • Your VISA or MasterCard number.

In Canada and the United States call:

1-800-267-6677

From other countries call:

1-613-951-7277

To fax your order:

1-877-287-4369

Address changes or account inquiries:

1-800-700-1033


To order a product by mail write: Statistics Canada, Circulation Management, Dissemination Division, Ottawa, K1A 0T6.

Include a cheque or money order payable to **Receiver General of Canada/Publications**. Canadian customers
add 7% GST and applicable PST.

To order by Internet: write to order@statcan.ca or download an electronic version by accessing Statistics Canada's
Web site (www.statcan.ca) under the headings *Our products and services* and *Publications for sale* (\$).

Authorized agents and bookstores also carry Statistics Canada's catalogued publications.

Design 1 - 2002 (F) (C) 11-001E/11-001E-001E-001E



The Daily
Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 5, 1997
For release at 8:30 a.m.



MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1996** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, each Canadian took an average of about six trips on some form of urban transit, the lowest level in the past 25 years.
- **Productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, 1996** 4
Growth in productivity among Canadian businesses and virtually work stops in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

- Map-based index, May 1997 3
- Short-term Expectations Survey 8
- Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997 12
- Egg production, Apr. 1997 12

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

 **Statistique Canada** 

Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

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.

To access *The Daily* on the Internet, visit our site at <http://www.statcan.ca>. To receive *The Daily* each morning by e-mail, send an e-mail message to lstproc@statcan.ca. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message, type "subscribe daily firstname lastname".

Published by authority of the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada. © Minister of Industry, 2002. Citation in newsprint, magazine, radio, and television reporting is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source. Any other reproduction is permitted subject to the requirement that Statistics Canada is acknowledged as the source on all copies as follows: Statistics Canada, *The Daily*, catalogue 11-001E, along with date and page references.