



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, August 15, 2002

Released at 8:30 am Eastern time

MAJOR RELEASES

There are no major releases today.

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OTHER RELEASES

Monthly Survey of Large Retailers

June 2002

Sales for the group of large retailers were up 6.1% in June from June 2001. Sales for the first half of 2002 were 6.6% higher than in the same period of 2001.

Every major commodity group posted a strong gain from June 2001, except housewares and food and beverages, which showed small increases. After posting relatively poor year-over-year results in May, clothing, footwear and accessories as well as hardware and lawn and garden products increased strongly in June. Consumers may have delayed some purchases until June as a result of cool weather across much of the country in May. (Data in this release have not been seasonally adjusted. All percentages represent year-over-year changes.)

Sales by commodity for the group of large retailers

	May 2002 ^r	June 2001	June 2002 ^p	June 2001 to June 2002
Unadjusted				
	\$ millions			% change
Commodities				
Food and beverages	2,393	2,269	2,304	1.5
Clothing, footwear and accessories	1,282	1,263	1,350	6.9
Home furnishings and electronics	930	897	961	7.2
Health and personal care products	642	548	606	10.5
Housewares	314	299	304	1.7
Sporting and leisure goods	336	343	369	7.6
Hardware and lawn and garden products	497	444	498	12.3
All other goods and services	846	768	855	11.4
Total	7,242	6,831	7,247	6.1

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

Hardware and lawn and garden products posted the strongest year-over-year sales increase in June. Within this commodity group, sales of lawn and garden products were especially strong (+18.7%) after unseasonably cool weather impacted sales in May. Hardware and home renovation products were up only slightly (+2.6%) in June, pulled down by declining sales of products such as plumbing, heating and cooling equipment, and paint and wallpaper.

Clothing, footwear and accessories jumped 6.9% in June after flat year-over-year sales in May. Sales of women's and girls' clothing advanced strongly in June, as did footwear sales. However, men's and boys' clothing sales were up only slightly from June 2001 for the group of large retailers.

Sales of other goods and services posted a second consecutive month of double-digit gains. As in May, tobacco product sales (+33.7%) were responsible for the increase in this commodity group. Recent increases in taxes accounted for a large portion of the jump in sales, as the price of tobacco products and supplies was 31.9% higher than in June 2001.

Note: The Monthly Survey of Large Retailers provides a breakdown of sales on the basis of commodities at the national level for a group of about 80 large retailers. Sales data for more than 100 commodities are available on a monthly basis. The survey includes large retailers mainly in the food, clothing, home furnishings and electronics, sporting goods, and general merchandise sectors. These retailers represent about 38% of total annual retail sales, excluding recreational and motor vehicle dealers.

Available on CANSIM: table 080-0009.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Elton Cryderman (613-951-0669; elton.cryderman@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division. ■

Machinery and equipment price indexes

Second quarter 2002

The Machinery and Equipment Price Index (1986=100) was 139.6 in the second quarter, down 0.6% from the first. Although the domestic component remained unchanged, the imported component fell 1.2%. Compared with the second quarter of 2001, the overall index advanced 1.6%; the domestic component rose 1.7% and the imported component, 1.5%.

Compared with the first quarter, all industry groups decreased; manufacturing (-0.7%), transport (-0.5%) and agriculture (-0.9%) contributed substantially to the fall in the index. Within the manufacturing sector, paper

and allied products (-0.9%), chemicals (-0.8%), primary metals (-1.0%) and transportation equipment (-0.9%) led the way.

The year-over-year increase was primarily the result of transport (+2.6%), manufacturing (+1.2%) and agriculture (+2.2%). The growth in manufacturing was sustained by primary metals (+3.2%) and paper and allied products (+1.9%). The rise in transport was the result of an increase in telephones (+3.8%) and electricity (+1.4%).

Machinery and equipment price indexes
(1986=100)

	Relative importance	Second quarter 2002 ^P	First quarter to second quarter 2002	Second quarter 2001 to second quarter 2002
			% change	
Machinery and Equipment Price Index	100.0	139.6	-0.6	1.6
Agriculture	11.0	169.4	-0.9	2.2
Forestry	1.5	147.1	-0.2	0.7
Fishing	0.6	129.9	-0.5	2.1
Mines, quarries and oil wells	6.0	142.3	-0.8	0.6
Manufacturing	29.9	148.1	-0.7	1.2
Construction	3.5	148.2	-0.8	1.6
Transportation, communication, storage and utilities	25.9	131.4	-0.5	2.6
Trade	4.0	124.0	-0.5	1.1
Finance, insurance and real estate	1.8	111.5	-0.6	0.5
Community, business and personal services	11.1	113.2	-0.6	0.4
Public administration	4.7	135.9	-0.7	1.7

^P Preliminary figures.

Most commodities fell in the second quarter, except buses and chassis (+2.5%). Goods contributing most to the decline included specialized industrial equipment (-0.9%), farm tractors (-1.4%), other agricultural

machinery except farm tractors (-0.9%), trucks (-0.5%), aircraft (-1.4%), and photographic equipment and supplies (-3.5%), for which the imported component dropped 6.1%. In the case of specialized industrial equipment, the imported component fell 1.3%; the import decrease was more pronounced in commercial services (-2.5%), railway transport (-1.6%) and textiles products (-1.6%).

The Canadian dollar was worth an average of 63.9 cents US in the second quarter, up 1.5% from the first quarter but down 1.4% from the second quarter of 2001.

Available on CANSIM: tables 327-0013, 327-0014 and 327-0016.

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 (613-951-0785; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca), Prices Division. ■

Steel primary forms

Week ending August 10, 2002 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending August 10 totalled 298 042 metric tonnes, down 1.1% from 301 206 tonnes a week earlier but up 3.3% from 288 442 tonnes in the same week of 2001. The year-to-date total as of August 10 was 9 956 775 tonnes, up 8.8% from 9 155 043 in the same period of 2001.

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

NEW PRODUCTS

New motor vehicle sales, June 2002, Vol. 74, no. 6
Catalogue number 63-007-XIB (\$13/\$124).

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.

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Thursday, June 3, 1997
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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Urban transit, 1995** 2
Despite the emphasis on taking urban transit, Canadians are using it less and less. In 1996, 68.1% of Canadian trips are a average of about 40 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 was initially weak again in 1996, accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

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