

The Daily

Statistics Canada

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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Industrial product and raw materials price indexes, July 2002** 3
Manufacturers' prices fell 0.3% in July from July 2001, the tenth consecutive period of decline. Prices of raw materials increased on an annual basis following eleven months of decline.
- **Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises, second quarter 2002** 6
The recovery in corporate profits was sustained in the second quarter. Operating profits rose 10.7% to \$38.8 billion, following similar gains in the first quarter.

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Perspectives on labour and income

August 2002 online edition

The August 2002 issue of *Perspectives on labour and income*, available today, features an article on fringe benefits provided to employees in the form of insurance plans and employer-sponsored pension plans. Since these benefits are often the result of demands from organized labour, one would expect coverage rates in these plans to be higher for unionized workers than for non-unionized workers. Also in this issue is a fact-sheet that provides our annual update on unionization in Canada.

For more information on the article "Unionization and fringe benefits," contact Ernest Akyeampong (613-951-4624; ernest.akyeampong@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division.

The August 2002 online edition of *Perspectives on labour and income*, Vol. 3, no. 8 (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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MAJOR RELEASES

Industrial product and raw materials price indexes

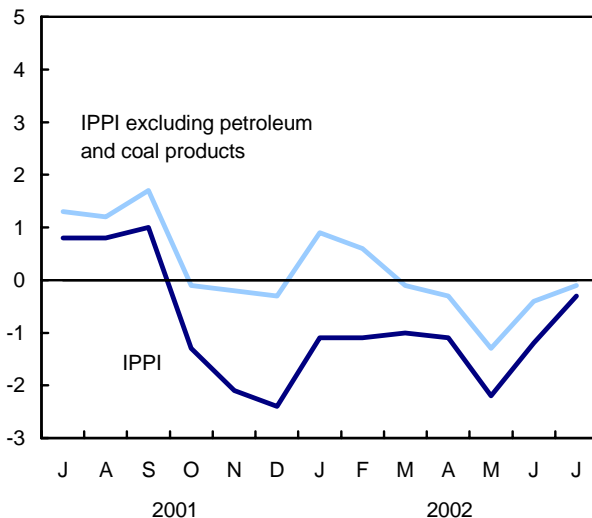
July 2002

Manufacturers' prices, as measured by the Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI), fell 0.3% in July from July 2001. This was the smallest of the decreases observed in the last ten months, primarily because of greatly reduced year-over-year declines for petroleum and coal products.

From July 2001 to July 2002, petroleum and coal product prices fell 2.6%. Although this was the thirteenth successive month that the year-over-year change was negative, July's decline was much smaller than the double-digit drops experienced in the previous nine months. If petroleum and coal product prices had been excluded, the IPPI would have decreased 0.1% instead of 0.3%.

Petroleum product prices have less influence on the IPPI

12-month % change



Price decreases for pulp and paper products, lumber products, and meat, fish and dairy products also contributed to the annual decline in manufacturers' prices. However, higher prices for primary metal products, fruit, vegetable and feed products, chemical

Note to readers

The **Industrial Product Price Index (IPPI)** reflects the prices that producers in Canada receive as the goods leave the plant gate. It does not reflect what the consumer pays. Unlike the Consumer Price Index, the IPPI excludes indirect taxes and all the costs that occur between the time a good leaves the plant and the time the final user takes possession of it, including the transportation, wholesale, and retail costs.

Canadian producers export many goods. They often quote their prices in foreign currencies, particularly for motor vehicles, pulp, paper, and wood products. Therefore, a rise or fall in the value of the Canadian dollar against its US counterpart affects the IPPI.

The **Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI)** reflects the prices paid by Canadian manufacturers for key raw materials. Many of these prices are set in a world market. Unlike the IPPI, the RMPI includes goods not produced in Canada.

products, and electrical and communication products partly offset these declines.

On a month-to-month basis, industrial prices were up a slight 0.2% from June, following a 0.3% drop in June from May. Higher prices for petroleum products, meat, fish and dairy products, fruit, vegetable and feed products, and lumber products were the major contributors to this increase. Lower prices for motor vehicles and electrical and communication products partly offset these monthly increases.

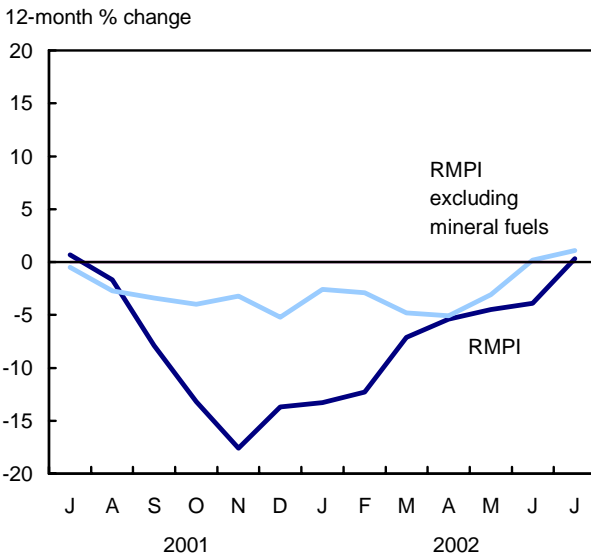
Manufacturers paid 0.3% more for their raw materials than they did in July 2001, the first increase since then. Higher prices for vegetable products, non-ferrous metals, wood products and ferrous materials were responsible for this annual rise in the Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI).

These increases were partly offset by lower prices for animal products (-7.0%) and mineral fuels (-0.5%). If mineral fuels had been excluded, the RMPI would have increased 1.1%.

On a monthly basis, raw materials prices were up 2.6% from June. Higher prices for mineral fuels, vegetable products and animal products were the major contributors to this increase. Price decreases for wood products and ferrous materials slightly offset this monthly increase.

The IPPI (1997=100) stood at 106.9 in July, up from its revised level of 106.7 in June. The RMPI (1997=100) rose to 114.7 in July from its revised level of 111.8 in June.

Crude oil prices continue to influence RMPI growth



Prices rise for crude oil and lumber

In the RMPI, crude oil prices were 6.1% higher in July than in June, mainly because of falling inventories. This decline was also reflected in the IPPI, as petroleum and coal product prices were up 1.8% from June.

In the IPPI, lumber and other wood product prices increased 0.5% in July from June, following three months of decline. Higher prices for softwood lumber were the major factor behind this monthly increase partly because of reduced supply. On an annual basis, prices were down 4.5%.

Impact of exchange rate pushes down prices

From June to July, the value of the US dollar weakened against the Canadian dollar, pushing down prices of commodities that are quoted in US dollars. As a result, the total IPPI excluding the effect of the exchange rate would have increased 0.4% instead of 0.2%.

However, on a 12-month basis, the influence of the dollar had less of an impact. The IPPI was down 0.3% from July 2001 to July 2002, but without the exchange rate effect the IPPI would have decreased 0.2%.

Motor vehicle prices still influence finished goods

On a monthly basis, prices for finished goods were down 0.1% from June. Lower prices for motor vehicles, electrical and communication products, and pulp and paper products were offset by higher prices for petroleum products and meat, fish and dairy products.

Rising prices for fruit, vegetable and feed products, electrical and communication products, machinery and equipment, and tobacco products pushed year-over-year prices for finished goods up 0.5% from July 2001. These increases were partly offset by lower prices for motor vehicles.

"Finished goods" are those generally purchased for the purpose of either consumption or investment. Most of the foods and feeds category ends up in the hands of consumers. Most capital goods are equipment and machinery generally bought by companies, government agencies, or governments. Much of the remainder is bought by consumers.

Prices for input goods continue to decline

Producers of intermediate goods received 0.8% less for their goods in July than in July 2001. Lower prices for pulp and paper products, lumber products, petroleum products, and meat, fish and dairy products were partly offset by higher prices for motor vehicles, primary metal products, and fruit, vegetable and feed products.

Prices for input goods were up 0.4% from June. Higher prices for petroleum products, fruit, vegetable and feed products, meat, fish and dairy products, and lumber products were the major contributors to this monthly increase.

"Intermediate goods" or "input goods" are goods that are generally bought by manufacturers to be further used in the production process, that is, to make other goods.

Available on CANSIM: tables 329-0038 to 329-0049 and 330-0006.

The July 2002 issue of *Industry price indexes* (62-011-XPB, \$22/\$217) 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 Client Services (613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca) or Danielle Gouin (613-951-3375; danielle.gouin@statcan.ca), Prices Division. □

Industrial product price indexes
(1997=100)

	Relative importance	July 2001	June 2002 ^r	July 2002 ^p	July 2001 to July 2002	June to July 2002
					% change	
Industrial Product Price Index	100.00	107.2	106.7	106.9	-0.3	0.2
Intermediate goods¹	60.14	104.6	103.4	103.8	-0.8	0.4
First-stage intermediate goods ²	7.71	100.0	101.4	101.7	1.7	0.3
Second-stage intermediate goods ³	52.43	105.3	103.7	104.2	-1.0	0.5
Finished goods⁴	39.86	111.1	111.7	111.6	0.5	-0.1
Finished foods and feeds	8.50	107.0	107.4	107.9	0.8	0.5
Capital equipment	11.73	110.5	111.6	111.1	0.5	-0.4
All other finished goods	19.63	113.3	113.6	113.4	0.1	-0.2
Aggregation by commodities						
Meat, fish and dairy products	5.78	109.6	106.4	107.9	-1.6	1.4
Fruit, vegetable, feeds and other food products	5.99	99.0	100.3	101.4	2.4	1.1
Beverages	1.57	111.2	113.5	113.5	2.1	0.0
Tobacco and tobacco products	0.63	126.1	138.9	139.6	10.7	0.5
Rubber, leather and plastic fabricated products	3.30	106.7	105.1	105.0	-1.6	-0.1
Textile products	1.58	100.8	99.7	99.7	-1.1	0.0
Knitted products and clothing	1.51	103.1	103.8	103.8	0.7	0.0
Lumber and other wood products	6.30	97.5	92.6	93.1	-4.5	0.5
Furniture and fixtures	1.59	106.6	107.3	107.4	0.8	0.1
Pulp and paper products	7.23	112.6	104.5	104.7	-7.0	0.2
Printing and publishing	1.70	111.7	114.2	114.0	2.1	-0.2
Primary metal products	7.80	93.8	96.8	96.9	3.3	0.1
Metal fabricated products	4.11	105.1	106.0	106.4	1.2	0.4
Machinery and equipment	5.48	105.5	107.0	106.8	1.2	-0.2
Motor vehicles and other transport equipment	22.16	113.2	113.6	113.0	-0.2	-0.5
Electrical and communication products	5.77	98.8	100.6	100.2	1.4	-0.4
Non-metallic mineral products	1.98	107.7	108.7	108.7	0.9	0.0
Petroleum and coal products ⁵	5.68	128.9	123.4	125.6	-2.6	1.8
Chemicals and chemical products	7.07	105.5	106.6	106.8	1.2	0.2
Miscellaneous manufactured products	2.40	105.4	107.2	107.0	1.5	-0.2
Miscellaneous non-manufactured products	0.38	86.9	90.8	90.4	4.0	-0.4

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

¹ Intermediate goods are goods used principally to produce other goods.

² First-stage intermediate goods are items used most frequently to produce other intermediate goods.

³ Second-stage intermediate goods are items most commonly used to produce final goods.

⁴ Finished goods are goods most commonly used for immediate consumption or for capital investment.

⁵ This index is estimated for the current month.

Raw materials price indexes
(1997=100)

	Relative importance	July 2001	June 2002 ^r	July 2002 ^p	July 2001 to July 2002	June to July 2002
					% change	
Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI)	100.00	114.3	111.8	114.7	0.3	2.6
Mineral fuels	35.16	161.6	153.8	160.8	-0.5	4.6
Vegetable products	10.28	85.4	94.1	99.0	15.9	5.2
Animals and animal products	20.30	110.8	101.9	103.0	-7.0	1.1
Wood	15.60	82.3	85.8	84.2	2.3	-1.9
Ferrous materials	3.36	88.3	94.6	93.9	6.3	-0.7
Non-ferrous metals	12.93	79.6	80.9	81.9	2.9	1.2
Non-metallic minerals	2.38	109.2	109.5	109.8	0.5	0.3
RMPI excluding mineral fuels	64.84	92.4	92.4	93.4	1.1	1.1

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises

Second quarter 2002 (preliminary)

The recovery in corporate profits was sustained in the second quarter. Operating profits rose 10.7% to \$38.8 billion, following similar gains in the first quarter. This rebound followed four straight quarterly declines in 2001 and returned profits to second quarter 2001 levels. Corporate profits peaked in the fourth quarter of 2000 at \$45.3 billion.

Reflecting the strength of the recovery, second quarter gains were widespread, with almost two-thirds of the 24 broad industry groups showing improvement.

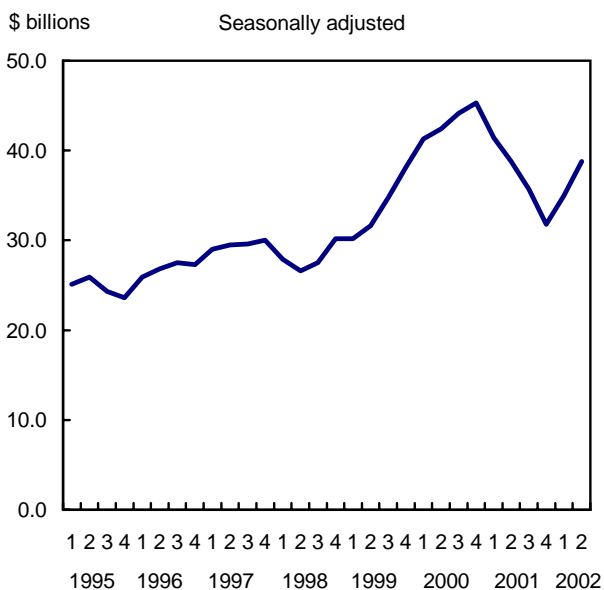
Notes to readers

These quarterly financial statistics cover the activities of non-government corporations in Canada.

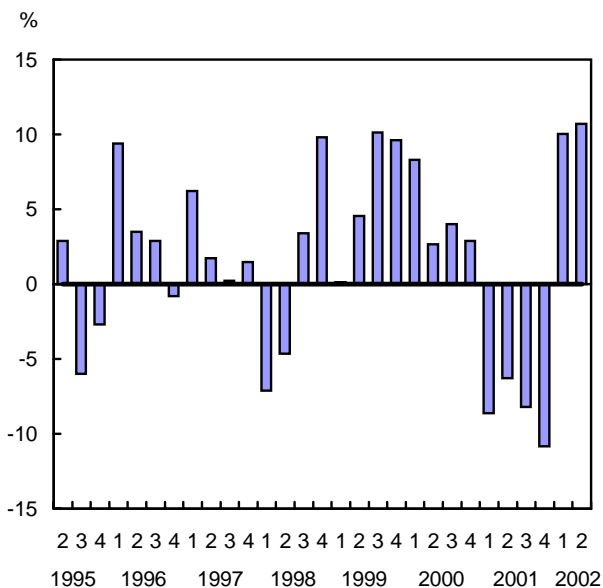
All references to **total all industries** exclude management of companies and enterprises as well as other funds and financial vehicles. References to **total non-financial industries** exclude management of companies and enterprises; references to **total finance and insurance industries** exclude other funds and financial vehicles.

realized losses on the sale of investments. Jittery investors withdrew extensively from mutual funds, amid uncertain financial market conditions.

Quarterly operating profits on the upswing



Percentage change in operating profits



The non-financial group of industries enjoyed an 11.9% profit surge, as low interest rates, employment gains and rising consumer confidence sustained growth in the manufacturing and retail sectors. New housing construction remained hot in the second quarter, spawning demand in a host of related industries. Oil and gas producers reaped the benefits of higher crude oil prices in the second quarter and reported much-improved profits.

Profits in the financial group of industries increased 6.8%, led by sizeable gains by depository credit intermediaries. However, profits of funds and other financial vehicles (which are not included in industry totals) fell \$0.5 billion, largely the result of

Higher commodity prices boost oil and gas profits

Companies involved in oil and gas extraction benefited from higher crude oil and natural gas prices in the second quarter. Profits of \$4.3 billion were 59.7% above first quarter levels. Nonetheless, profits remained well below those earned in the second quarter of 2001, when robust energy prices lifted profits to \$5.5 billion.

Manufacturing sector upbeat

Manufacturers posted their third straight rise in operating profits, as second quarter profits advanced 6.1% to \$9.9 billion. Operating revenue rose 2.2%, following a 3.0% increase in the first quarter.

The motor vehicles industry continued to fuel growth in this sector, as North American demand for new motor vehicles remained strong.

Incentive programs stimulate motor vehicle industry

Operating revenue and profits of motor vehicles and parts manufacturers expanded for the second straight quarter, boosted by low interest rates and generous financing incentive programs. Domestically, new motor vehicle sales were upbeat, sustaining the high levels generated in the first quarter. Export demand for motor vehicle products was bolstered by extensive new vehicle replacement by US consumers, although this demand slowed over the latter two months of the quarter.

Petroleum producers regain some lost ground

The operating profits of petroleum and coal producers increased to \$1.0 billion in the second quarter from \$0.7 billion in the first. Despite the recent gains, profits remained barely half of the near-record levels in the second quarter of 2001.

Petroleum prices had peaked in the latter part of 2000 and in early 2001, but then declined steadily until the second quarter of 2002. Integrated producers reported second quarter improvement in their upstream extraction results, but tight margins in their refining and marketing activities tempered overall profit gains.

Rebates lift wood and paper profits

The reversal of temporary duties on lumber exports to the United States generated refunds to Canadian exporters and a boost to second quarter profits. Exports of softwood lumber to the United States accelerated in May as a brief duty-free window was opened. However, the re-instatement of countervailing and anti-dumping duties later in the quarter slashed softwood exports in June.

Wood and paper industry profits recovered to \$1.0 billion in the second quarter, up from \$0.9 billion in the first. Operating revenue was unchanged at \$18.2 billion. Although up somewhat from the first quarter, industry profits paled compared with the \$1.3 billion earned in the second quarter of 2001 and the \$2.4 billion record high in the first quarter of 2000.

Primary metals up again

After plunging to their lowest level in nine years, profits of primary metals producers rebounded for the second straight quarter, rising to \$0.4 billion from \$0.3 billion in the first quarter and from virtually no profits in the fourth quarter of 2001. Operating revenue rose 3.5%, following a 4.4% jump in the first quarter.

Steel producers reported strong demand from the automotive, housing and appliance sectors. Prices have firmed up with the rising demand and in part because of a US trade ruling restricting overseas steel imports.

Electronics manufacturers remain mired in slump

Manufacturers of computers and electronic products registered operating losses for the fourth time in the past five quarters. Losses of \$0.1 billion were slightly lower than in the first quarter, but stagnant markets have forced the industry into extensive restructuring and downsizing, and associated costs have contributed to the string of quarterly losses. Operating revenue rose 5.2% to \$8.8 billion in the second quarter, but remained one-third below the peak levels in the fourth quarter of 2000.

Other manufacturing industries

Machinery and equipment manufacturers boosted operating profits 34.4%. Furniture manufacturers benefited from the continued strength in housing and reported a 38.3% jump in profits. Chemical producers' profits fell 20.4% and profits of other transportation equipment manufacturers dropped 17.7%.

Consumer spending lifts retail profits

Operating profits of retailers increased 11.8% to \$2.4 billion in the second quarter, following a 9.2% rise in the first. Operating revenue continued to expand, rising 3.9%, following a 5.3% growth in the first quarter. Notable profit gains were reported by retailers of motor vehicles (+13.8%), furniture and appliance stores (+15.8%) and food and beverage stores (+28.0%). General merchandise stores, including department stores, saw profits edge up 6.0%, the third straight quarterly increase. Department store sales in the second quarter, as reported in the June release of "Department store sales and stocks," were up 0.3% from the first quarter, following a sharp 4.9% rise in the first quarter.

Increased shipments help transportation carriers

Operating profits in the transportation and warehousing industry advanced 10.1% to \$1.5 billion, their highest level in almost two years. Operating revenue rose 0.8%, following a 2.9% increase in the first quarter. Higher levels of manufacturing shipments have been a boon for many transportation carriers. Airline profits strengthened, in part because of extensive cost-cutting programs and rising consumer confidence.

Chartered banks the big winner in the financial sector

The depository credit intermediaries (mainly chartered banks) earned \$3.3 billion in second quarter operating profits, up 23.5% from the first quarter. Despite the gain, profits remained well below the \$4.2 billion earned in the second quarter of 2001. In the second quarter of 2002, higher commission and brokerage fees and lower interest expense more than offset a decline in interest revenue. Profits received an additional boost from lower provisions booked in the second quarter for future loan losses, although these provisions remained at historically high levels.

Funds and insurers lose ground

Funds and other financial vehicles suffered a 23.8% profit slide, as second quarter operating profits fell to \$1.7 billion. Realized losses on the sale of securities totalled \$0.3 billion in the second quarter compared with gains of \$0.4 billion in the first. The uncertain financial market conditions have prompted investors to redeem mutual funds at an accelerating pace, resulting in the sale of fund investments to finance the redemptions.

Insurance company profits deteriorated in the second quarter, falling to \$0.9 billion from \$1.2 billion in the first. Most of the decline was attributable to life insurers, where structural changes within the industry

contributed to increased operating expenses and lower profits.

Profitability ratios much improved

The all-industry return on shareholders' equity increased to 9.0% in the second quarter from 8.1% in the first. After-tax profits (the numerator in the return on equity calculation) increased 13.4% to \$22.5 billion, while total shareholders' equity edged up 2.4%. Although much improved, the second quarter return on equity was well under the record 12.3% returns posted in the first quarter of 2000.

The operating profit margin advanced to 6.9% in the second quarter from 6.4% in the first. Margins have been on the upswing for the past two quarters, following the recent low of 6.0% earned in the final quarter of 2001.

Available on CANSIM: tables 187-0001 and 187-0002.

The second quarter 2002 issue of *Quarterly financial statistics for enterprises* (61-008-XIE, \$26/\$86) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For general information or to order data, contact Jeannine D'Angelo (613-951-2604). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bill Potter (613-951-2662) or Promise Sanipé (613-951-0274), Industrial Organization and Finance Division

Financial statistics for enterprises

	Second quarter 2001 ^r	First quarter 2002 ^r	Second quarter 2002 ^p	First quarter to second quarter 2002
Seasonally adjusted				
	\$ billions			% change
All industries				
Operating revenue	551.6	547.6	560.8	2.4
Operating profit	38.8	35.0	38.8	10.7
Net profit	21.6	19.9	22.5	13.4
Non-financial				
Operating revenue	499.1	497.6	511.0	2.7
Operating profit	29.7	27.2	30.5	11.9
Net profit	17.4	15.3	17.9	16.7
Financial				
Operating revenue	52.5	50.0	49.8	-0.4
Operating profit	9.1	7.8	8.3	6.8
Net profit	4.2	4.6	4.6	1.9

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

OTHER RELEASES

Stocks of frozen and chilled meat products

August 2002

Total frozen and chilled red meat in cold storage at the opening of the first business day of August amounted to 107 542 metric tonnes, up 38% from 77 877 tonnes in July and up 71% from 62 800 tonnes in August 2001.

Available on CANSIM: tables 003-0005 and 003-0006.

Stocks of frozen and chilled meat products (23-009-XIE, free) is now available on Statistics Canada's Web site (www.statcan.ca). From the *Our products and services* page, choose *Free publications*, then *Agriculture*.

For general information, call 1-800-465-1991. To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Barbara McLaughlin (902-893-7251; barbara.mclaughlin@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Steel primary forms

Week ending August 24, 2002 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending August 24 totalled 291 207 metric tonnes, up 8.8% from 267 621 tonnes a week earlier but down 2.6% from 298 998 tonnes in the same week of 2001. The year-to-date total as of August 24 was 10 543 272 tonnes, up 7.6% from 9 795 850 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. ■

Aircraft movement statistics: Major airports

May 2002

There were 548,218 take-offs and landings recorded in May at the 99 airports with Nav Canada air traffic control towers or flight service stations, down 6.4% from the 98 airports reported in May 2001.

The May 2002 monthly report, Vol. 1 (TP141, free) is now available on Transport Canada's Web site (<http://www.tc.gc.ca/pol/en/Report/tp141e/tp141.htm>).

Note: The TP141 monthly report is issued in two volumes. Volume 1 presents statistics for the major Canadian airports (those with Nav Canada air traffic control towers or flight service stations). Volume 2 presents statistics for the smaller airports (those without air traffic control towers). Both volumes are available free upon release at Transport Canada's Web site.

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

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

Aircraft movement statistics: Small airports

March 2002

There were 48,604 take-offs and landings recorded in March at the 110 airports without air traffic control towers, down 11.6% from March 2001 when the same number of airports reported 55,003 take-offs and landings.

The March 2002 monthly report, Vol. 2 (TP141, free) is now available on Transport Canada's Web site (<http://www.tc.gc.ca/pol/en/Report/tp141e/tp141.htm>).

Note: The TP141 monthly report is issued in two volumes. Volume 1 presents statistics for the major Canadian airports (those with Nav Canada air traffic control towers or flight service stations). Volume 2 presents statistics for the smaller airports (those without air traffic control towers). Both volumes are available free upon release at Transport Canada's Web site.

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

Production and disposition of tobacco products

July 2002

Both the production and the sale of cigarettes fell in July from June. However, inventory levels increased, as manufacturers produced more cigarettes than they sold.

The number of cigarettes sold dropped to 3.0 billion in July, down 15% from 3.5 billion in June and 34% from 4.6 billion in July 2001. From January to July 2002, cigarette manufacturers sold 24.2 billion cigarettes, down 7% from the 26.0 billion cigarettes in the same period of 2001.

The number of cigarettes produced declined 10% in July to 3.2 billion. Nonetheless, this was up 5% from the 3.1 billion cigarettes produced in July 2001. Cumulative production from January to June 2002 stood at 25.1 billion cigarettes, down 3% from the same period of 2001.

With production higher than sales, the closing level of inventories was up 4% from June, at 5.0 billion cigarettes. This represents a 37% increase from July 2001, when inventories totalled 3.7 billion cigarettes.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0007.

The July 2002 issue of *Production and disposition of tobacco products*, Vol. 31, no. 7 (32-022-XIB, \$5/\$47) 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 the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Employment services

2000

Data for 2000 on the staffing services industry group, comprising the temporary help services and employment placement agencies industries, are now available.

Staffing services establishments earned revenues of \$5.8 billion in 2000. Temporary staffing services generated 69% of these revenues. The temporary staffing services industry reported that they helped 465,000 workers find temporary assignments in 2000. These workers produced 232 million billable hours for the industry.

The largest user of this industry's services was the business sector, which paid nearly \$4.8 billion in 2000 for employment services. Clients outside Canada generated more than \$100 million for this industry's services.

Some 62% of industry revenues were earned in Ontario.

The before-tax profit margin for the industry was 6.7%.

Available on CANSIM: table 361-0001.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Randy Smadella (613-951-3472; randy.smadella@statcan.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

Arts, entertainment and recreation services

2000

Performing arts companies' revenues declined 1.7% in 2000 to \$894.4 million. Their profit margin fell to 8.2%, a decline of nearly 3 percentage points from 1999. Salaries and wages accounted for just over one third of the industry's total expenses in 2000.

The spectator sports industry, which includes professional and semi-professional sports clubs and teams, continued to report losses in 2000, with a profit margin of -6.3%.

The amusement and recreation services industry generated revenues of \$5.0 billion in 2000. This includes the ski industry, comprised of downhill and cross-country skiing facilities, which saw its profit margin fall to 10.4% in 2000. This was the result of a 14.9% rise in expenses that far exceeded the industry's 1.5% increase in revenues.

Data for selected industries of the arts, entertainment and recreation services industries, including performing arts companies, spectator sports, and amusement and recreational operations, are now available for 2000. These data provide information such as the industries' revenue, expenditures, profit margin, salaries and wages, as well as the percentage distribution of revenue by type of service and operating expenses by type.

Available on CANSIM: table 361-0002.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Brad Binns (613-951-3288; brad.binns@statcan.ca)

or Irene Ross (613-951-6305; puccire@statcan.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

Unionization and fringe benefits

1999

Slightly more than half of all employees in Canada enjoyed employer-sponsored medical, dental or life/disability insurance coverage in 1999, according to a study available today in the August online edition of *Perspectives on labour and income*.

The study, which used data from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics, showed that about 57% of employees were covered by an extended medical plan, 53% by a dental plan, and about 53% by a life or disability insurance plan. The coverage rate for employer-sponsored pension plans was slightly lower, about 43%.

Coverage in the three insurance plans differed considerably by union status. Workers in unionized jobs were almost twice as likely as their non-unionized counterparts to be covered in each of the three plans. For example, 84% of unionized employees reported having an extended medical plan, compared with only 45% of non-unionized employees.

The gap was even wider in terms of pension plan coverage, where 80% of unionized employees had

such a plan, compared with only 27% of non-unionized employees.

Rates and differentials in 1999 were generally unchanged from 1995. A majority of unionized employees enjoyed coverage under all three insurance plans; a majority of non-unionized workers had no coverage under any plan.

For unionized workers, the chances of being covered were fairly close in both the public and private sectors. For the non-unionized, the chances were much higher in the public sector. The overall union advantage resulted primarily from low coverage in small- and medium-sized firms — those with fewer than 100 employees — in the private sector.

In both Canada and the United States, unionized workers enjoyed higher coverage rates for these non-wage fringe benefits than their non-unionized counterparts. However, the union advantage tended to be less in the United States.

The article "Unionization and fringe benefits" is available in the August 2002 online edition of *Perspectives on labour and income*, Vol. 3, no. 8 (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 Ernest B. Akyeampong (613-951-4624; ernest.akyeampong@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Surveys Analysis Division. ■

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