



The Daily

Statistics Canada

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MAJOR RELEASES

- **Consumer Price Index, September 2003**
 Consumers paid 2.2% more in September 2003 for the goods and services included in the Consumer Price Index basket than they did in September 2002. September's 12-month increase remains well below the recent highs of early 2003 when energy prices, and especially gasoline prices, were providing the bulk of the upward pressure.

2

- **Wholesale trade, August 2003**
 Wholesale sales were down dramatically in August (-4.6%), affected by the power outage in Ontario and the north-eastern United States. The last decline of this magnitude was due to the January 1998 ice storm (-4.3%).

6

OTHER RELEASES

- | | |
|--|----|
| Health of rural Canadians, 2000/01 | 9 |
| Cereals and oilseeds review, August 2003 | 9 |
| Monthly railway carloadings, August 2003 | 10 |
| Restaurants, caterers and taverns, August 2003 | 10 |

NEW PRODUCTS

MAJOR RELEASES

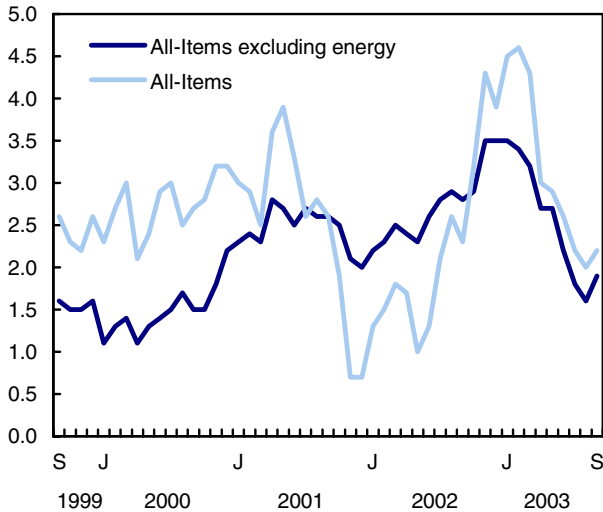
Consumer Price Index

September 2003

Consumers paid 2.2% more in September for the goods and services included in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) basket than they did in September 2002. This follows a 12-month rise of 2.0% in August. September's 12-month increase remains well below the recent highs of early 2003, when energy prices, and especially gasoline prices, were providing the bulk of the upward pressure.

Percentage change from the same month of the previous year

% change



Excluding energy, the CPI rose 1.9% from September 2002 to September 2003, after rising 1.6% in August. Although energy prices remain a significant influence on the All-items CPI, their overall impact over the last four months has been less volatile than has typically been the case.

The 12-month percentage change in the CPI continues to be pressured by increases in automotive vehicle insurance premiums, as well as natural gas prices. Insurance premiums for automotive vehicles rose 22.2% from September 2002 to September 2003. Most of this increase occurred in the first half of the 12-month period. The natural gas index was 49.4% higher than in September 2002. This increase

Changes to the treatment of rebates in the Consumer Price Index

Beginning with the Consumer Price Index for October 2003, Statistics Canada will change its treatment of rebate payments. The change will affect some types of rebate programs usually related to electricity or natural gas utilities.

Rebates will no longer be reflected in the CPI if they are paid on the basis of past consumption and were not known to consumers at the time of consumption.

To be reflected in the CPI, rebates or credits must relate to specific products and apply to all consumers (or a large proportion of consumers) of the product affected. CPI practice has been to reflect the impact of rebates at the time when rebates are paid. If a rebate was greater than the average monthly charge, the remainder of the rebate was reflected in following months until the rebate had been fully accounted for. Thus the CPI could reflect an average price close to zero for one month or several months in some situations. As a result, the treatment of rebates has had a significant effect on the rate of change in the CPI, making the indexes for utilities particularly volatile.

The impact of the change will be to reduce short-term fluctuations in the CPI arising from rebates on past consumption. By treating retroactive rebates as windfalls to income rather than as price changes, the level of the CPI will be higher for the months that would have been affected under the past treatment of these rebates, with a corresponding impact on annual averages.

Rebate programs known to consumers at the time of purchase will continue to be accounted for in the CPI.

was the result of higher prices in Ontario and the effects of a payment to Northern Alberta customers following the sale of a gas field last year, which made the September 2003 index higher by comparison. September is the last month where the effect of this payment on the natural gas index for Alberta will be felt.

Students paid an average of 8.1% more in tuition fees this year, the largest advance since September 1997 and a significant acceleration from increases over the previous three years, which averaged 3.8%. The tuition fee index for a given province takes into account the fact that some of that province's residents attend educational institutions in other provinces. Increases in tuition fees varied from 0.5% for Quebec residents, where tuition fees are frozen for a seventh consecutive year, to 26.2% for British Columbia's. Only the tuition fees for Newfoundland and Labrador residents (-1.6%) fell.

Gasoline prices, homeowners' replacement cost and the price of cigarettes also added to the upward pressure on the All-items CPI.

Lower prices for electricity, automotive vehicles and traveller accommodation had the strongest moderating effect on the increase in the All-items CPI.

Slight increase in the CPI between August and September

The CPI continued its slow moving upward trend, going up 0.2% from August to September. This rise follows a monthly advance of 0.2% in August and consecutive increases of 0.1% in each of the three preceding months. Higher tuition fees, as well as higher prices for women's clothing, natural gas and men's clothing exerted upward pressure on the All-items CPI. Downward pressure came from lower prices for fresh vegetables, traveller accommodation, air transportation and gasoline.

Students had to pay 8.1% more in tuition fees this year, the largest rise since September 1997. Increases were highest for British Columbia residents (+26.2%). The tuition fee index for a province takes into account the fact that some residents of that province are studying in institutions outside of the province. After a six-year freeze in British Columbia universities that ended in 2002, tuition fees for residents of this province have jumped 52.9%. In 2003, only the tuition fees for Newfoundland and Labrador residents fell (-1.6%). As the share of government funding in university operating budgets declined, the 1990s saw hikes in tuition fees averaging 10.3% with a high of 16.9% in September 1991. Between September 2000 and September 2003, the rate of increase of tuition fees has slowed to an annual average of 4.9%. The current index level is 175.8% higher than in September 1990.

Overall, the clothing index rose 4.2%, bringing the index close to March 2003 levels. This is a stronger increase than what is typical for this time of the year but follows unusually strong decreases in the spring. Increases were widespread across products and provinces. The largest part of the upward pressure came from women's clothing (+5.7%), followed by men's (+2.7%) and children's (+3.1%) clothing.

The natural gas index rose 3.8% in September, following price increases in Alberta. Higher prices were caused by natural gas companies underestimating August's consumption and price increases on the North American commodity market.

In September, fresh vegetable prices fell 10.8%. Decreases were attributed mainly to the ongoing supply of local products.

Traveller accommodation prices fell on average 4.5%, as several hotel and motel operators lowered their rates with the end of the peak tourist season. Price declines of this magnitude are therefore typical in September. The residents of

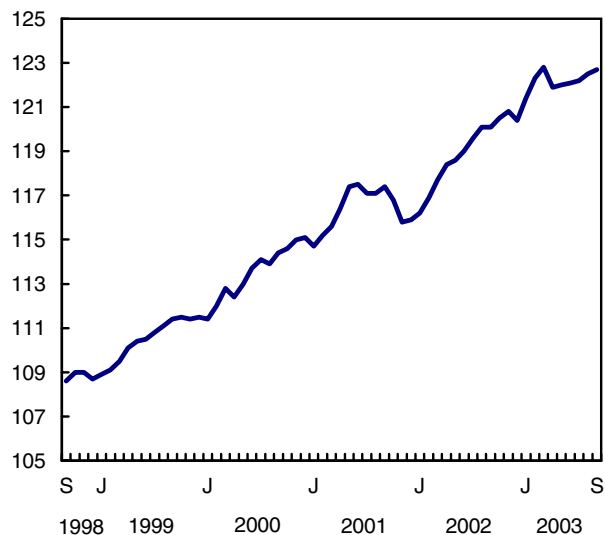
every province, except Newfoundland and Labrador (+1.3%), experienced a drop in prices. The traveller accommodation index, like the one for tuition fees, takes into account the fact that some residents of a given province consume these services in other provinces.

Air transportation prices went down 3.5%. Decreases of this size are usual in September, as lower fares are available to travellers to transatlantic, Pacific/Asia and southern destinations.

Gasoline prices fell on average 0.7% from August to September, mainly as a result of decreases in Ontario and Quebec.

Consumer Price Index

Unadjusted index (1992=100)



The seasonally adjusted CPI increased slightly from August to September

After adjusting for seasonal variations, the All-items CPI rose 0.2% from August to September. The factors contributing to this rise were increases in the indexes for clothing and footwear (+1.2%), recreation, education and reading (+0.6%), health and personal care (+0.4%), alcoholic beverages and tobacco products (+0.3%), shelter (+0.2%), food (+0.2%) and household operations and furnishings (+0.2%). These increases were partly offset by a drop in the seasonally adjusted index for transportation (-0.4%).

All-items excluding the eight most volatile components

The All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components as defined by the Bank of Canada

rose 1.7% from September 2002 to September 2003. This marks the third consecutive month of 12-month increases below 2.0% (+1.8% in July and +1.5% in August). The main contributors to September's rise were higher automotive vehicle insurance premiums (+22.2%), tuition fees (+8.1%) and homeowners' replacement cost (+6.1%).

The All-items index excluding the eight most volatile components as defined by the Bank of Canada increased 0.3% from August to September. Most of the upward pressure came from higher tuition fees and women's and men's clothing prices. Downward pressure came from lower prices for traveller accommodation and automotive vehicle purchases.

Energy

The energy index rose 6.5% in September from September 2002, following a 12-month increase of 7.6% in August. Natural gas prices (+49.4%) continued to have the strongest upward effect on the energy index. Gasoline (+5.3%) and fuel oil (+2.1%) prices also contributed to the advance, whereas electricity prices fell (-8.3%), mainly because of the change in Ontario from an open market to a regulated one in December 2002.

The energy index fell 0.1% from August to September. Price decreases for gasoline, fuel oil and electricity were almost entirely offset by an increase in the price of natural gas.

Available on CANSIM: tables 326-0001, 326-0002, 326-0009, 326-0012 and 326-0016 to 326-0018.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2301.

Available at 7 a.m. on Statistics Canada's website. From the home page, choose *Today's news releases from The Daily*, then *Latest Consumer Price Index*.

The September 2003 issue of the *Consumer Price Index* (62-001-XIB, \$9/\$83; 62-001-XPB, \$11/\$103) is now available. See *How to order products*.

The October 2003 *Consumer Price Index* will be released on November 19.

For more information, to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, or to obtain a fact sheet on the changes to the treatment of rebates in the CPI, call Rebecca McDougall (1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; fax: 613-951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca) or Ron Morency (613-951-3103), Prices Division.

□

Consumer Price Index and major components
(1992=100)

	September 2003	August 2003	September 2002	August to September 2003	September 2002 to September 2003
unadjusted					
	% change				
All-items	122.7	122.5	120.1	0.2	2.2
Food	121.3	122.1	119.2	-0.7	1.8
Shelter	117.9	117.7	114.6	0.2	2.9
Household operations and furnishings	115.1	114.7	113.8	0.3	1.1
Clothing and footwear	105.0	101.8	107.3	3.1	-2.1
Transportation	141.9	142.4	136.8	-0.4	3.7
Health and personal care	117.6	117.4	115.7	0.2	1.6
Recreation, education and reading	128.9	128.0	128.7	0.7	0.2
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco products	137.1	137.1	129.9	0.0	5.5
All-items (1986=100)	157.2				
Purchasing power of the consumer dollar expressed in cents, compared to 1992	81.5	81.6	83.3		
Special aggregates					
Goods	117.9	117.9	116.8	0.0	0.9
Services	128.1	127.7	123.9	0.3	3.4
All-items excluding food and energy	120.9	120.5	118.7	0.3	1.9
Energy	143.4	143.5	134.6	-0.1	6.5
All-items excluding the eight most volatile components ¹	123.2	122.8	121.2	0.3	1.7

¹ Excluded from the All-items CPI are the following eight volatile components, as defined by the Bank of Canada: fruit, fruit preparations and nuts; vegetables and vegetable preparations; mortgage interest cost; natural gas; fuel oil and other fuel; gasoline; inter-city transportation; and tobacco products and smokers' supplies. The Bank of Canada further adjusts this series to obtain their measure of core inflation, which also excludes the effect of changes in indirect taxes. For data and information on core inflation, please consult the Bank of Canada website (www.bankofcanada.ca/inflation).

Consumer Price Index by province, and for Whitehorse, Yellowknife and Iqaluit
(1992=100)

	September 2003	August 2003	September 2002	August to September 2003	September 2002 to September 2003
unadjusted					
	% change				
Newfoundland and Labrador	121.4	120.7	118.1	0.6	2.8
Prince Edward Island	122.2	121.5	119.2	0.6	2.5
Nova Scotia	124.1	124.1	121.2	0.0	2.4
New Brunswick	123.0	122.7	120.1	0.2	2.4
Québec	118.2	118.4	116.3	-0.2	1.6
Ontario	123.9	123.8	121.2	0.1	2.2
Manitoba	125.9	125.2	123.9	0.6	1.6
Saskatchewan	127.2	126.8	125.0	0.3	1.8
Alberta	130.1	129.3	125.9	0.6	3.3
British Columbia	121.2	120.9	118.8	0.2	2.0
Whitehorse	120.2	120.4	118.8	-0.2	1.2
Yellowknife	117.9	118.1	117.7	-0.2	0.2
Iqaluit (Dec. 2002=100)	100.3	100.3	...	0.0	...

... Figures not available.

Wholesale trade

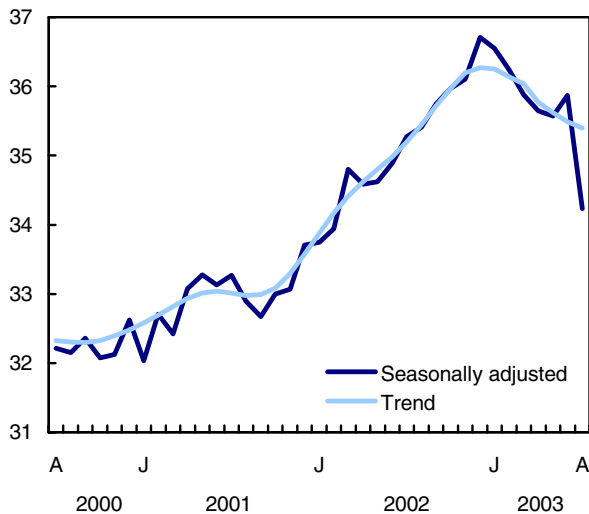
August 2003

Wholesalers sold goods and services worth \$34.2 billion in August, a drop of 4.6%. The last decline of this magnitude was due to the January 1998 ice storm (-4.3%). The drop in August was the sixth decline in seven months. Prior to this string of declines, wholesale sales enjoyed strong growth from the fall of 2001 to January 2003.

The August slump in wholesale sales was largely attributed to the power blackout that paralyzed Ontario and the north-eastern United States for a few days. The automotive manufacturing sector in both countries was severely affected. As a result of the strong interrelationships between North American manufacturers and Canadian wholesalers, strong declines in wholesale sales followed.

In August, the wholesale sales are showing a strong decrease

\$ billions



In total, 9 of the 11 sectors were down in August. The biggest declines were in motor vehicles, parts and accessories (-15.4%), farm machinery, equipment and supplies (-11.4%) and computers and electronic products (-8.1%). The "other products" categories, in contrast, posted a relatively robust advance (+4.7%).

Wholesale sales of lumber and building materials remained relatively unchanged (-0.2%).

In constant dollars, wholesale sales dropped 4.9% in August.

Note to readers

Estimates from the Monthly Wholesale Trade Survey are classified according to the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification.

Blackout forces auto wholesalers to cut sales

While the wholesale automotive sector continues to experience some difficulties, the sharp decrease in sales in August (-15.4%) stemmed primarily from below-normal manufacturing production due to the power outage. Production fell 23.1% in Ontario and 2.6% in the United States. In addition, problems with communications systems disrupted shipments of motor vehicles to Canada (the blackout also having affected computers used by wholesalers to manage shipments and deliveries). These factors contributed to a 20.4% reduction in vehicle and truck imports.

The fall in wholesale sales of automotive products was the seventh consecutive monthly decline. This contrasts with 2002, a year in which this sector was one of the principal contributors to the strength observed in total wholesale trade.

Sales of other products up sharply in August

Sales of other products (which includes paper products, recreational and sporting goods, and jewellery and watches) posted a strong gain in August (+4.7%). The increase partly offset the declines of the previous two months. Despite the upturn this month, the sector's sales have generally been falling since February. This follows a period of vigorous growth from July 2002 to January 2003.

Despite forest fires, the lumber and building materials sector remains steady

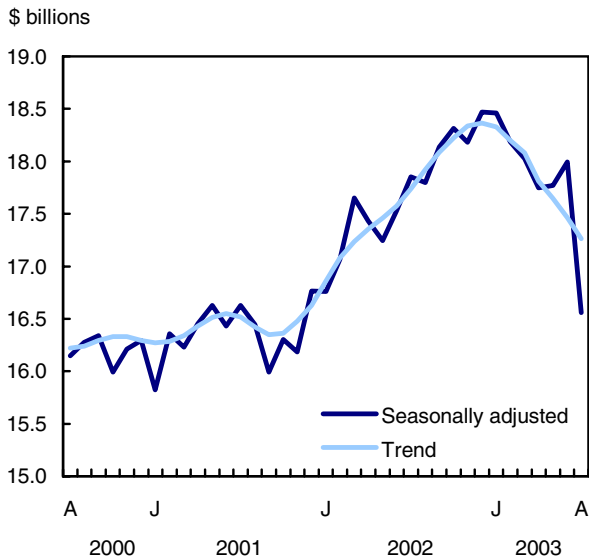
Even though more than 900 forest fires ravaged southern British Columbia in August, affecting the forest industry, wholesalers of lumber and building materials managed to chalk up relatively stable sales (-0.2%). Following a period of stability from the summer of 2002 to the end of the first quarter of 2003, sales have been gradually on the upswing in the last few months.

Ontario directly affected by the blackout

Although Ontario accounts for about half of wholesale sales, it was responsible for 88% of the

sales decline in August. The prominence of certain wholesale sectors, such as the automotive sector and computer and electronics, helped push wholesale sales down 8.0% in the province. As with total wholesale trade, Ontario's wholesalers have generally experienced lower sales since February. This follows a period of nearly uninterrupted growth from October 2001 to January 2003.

Since February, Ontario's wholesale sales have generally been falling



In addition to Ontario, six other provinces recorded lower wholesale sales in August. The decline affected all of the Prairie provinces: Manitoba (-2.6%), Saskatchewan (-1.9%) and Alberta (-1.6%). In addition to lower auto sales in the three provinces, Saskatchewan and Alberta also experienced a decline in farm machinery sales. For Alberta, the decrease was exacerbated by a slump in sales of industrial machinery. Manitoba had lower sales in the other products and food products sectors.

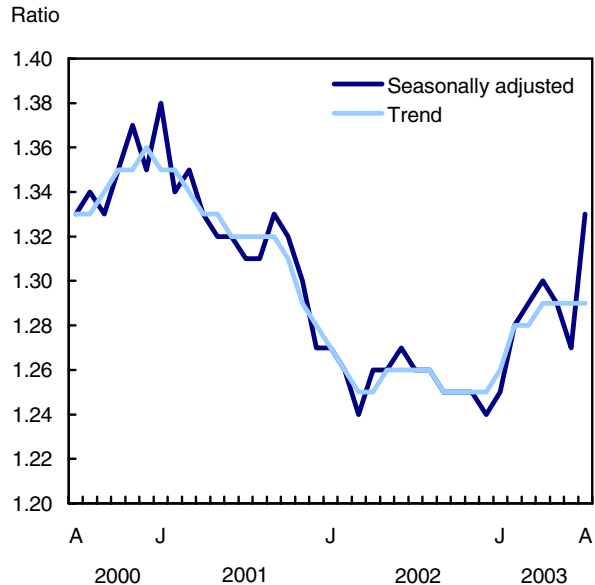
Inventory-to-sales ratio up sharply

The steep drop in sales had an impact on the inventory-to-sales ratio, which jumped from 1.27 in July to 1.33 in August. The ratio now stands at its

highest level since October 2001. Throughout 2001 to the end of the first quarter of 2002, the ratio generally moved downward. It remained flat for the following three quarters, and since February 2003 it has been climbing, mainly as a result of the general decline in sales.

In August, inventories remained essentially unchanged (-0.1%).

Inventory-to-sales ratio hits a 22-month high



Available on CANSIM: tables 081-0001 and 081-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2401.

The August 2003 issue of *Wholesale trade* (63-008-XIB, \$14/\$140) will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

Estimates of wholesale sales for September will be released on November 24.

For general information or to order data, contact Client Services (1-877-421-3067; 613-951-3549; wholesaleinfo@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Jean Lebreux (613-951-4907; jean.lebreux@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division. □

Wholesale merchants' sales and inventories

	August 2002	May 2003 ^r	June 2003 ^r	July 2003 ^r	August 2003 ^p	July to August 2003	August 2002 to August 2003
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions					% change	
Sales, all trade groups	35,270	35,649	35,571	35,870	34,235	-4.6	-2.9
Food products	5,690	5,719	5,743	5,721	5,608	-2.0	-1.5
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	2,982	3,213	3,272	3,361	3,364	0.1	12.8
Apparel and dry goods	626	677	664	660	654	-0.9	4.6
Household goods	1,033	1,031	1,030	1,037	1,009	-2.8	-2.4
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	7,056	6,604	6,535	6,460	5,464	-15.4	-22.6
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	2,132	2,059	2,076	2,042	2,006	-1.8	-5.9
Lumber and building materials	2,834	2,878	2,845	2,995	2,989	-0.2	5.5
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	624	837	805	805	713	-11.4	14.2
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	4,896	4,874	4,973	5,119	4,766	-6.9	-2.7
Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery	2,673	2,672	2,663	2,875	2,641	-8.1	-1.2
Other products	4,722	5,086	4,965	4,796	5,022	4.7	6.3
Sales by province and territory							
Newfoundland and Labrador	224	217	221	231	231	-0.2	2.8
Prince Edward Island	54	63	61	63	65	2.9	20.0
Nova Scotia	603	623	648	628	632	0.7	4.9
New Brunswick	434	444	439	462	439	-5.0	1.0
Quebec	7,041	7,177	7,177	7,310	7,234	-1.0	2.7
Ontario	17,853	17,749	17,770	17,995	16,558	-8.0	-7.3
Manitoba	1,003	1,121	1,062	1,030	1,003	-2.6	0.0
Saskatchewan	1,037	1,071	1,011	990	972	-1.9	-6.3
Alberta	3,548	3,770	3,797	3,772	3,712	-1.6	4.6
British Columbia	3,427	3,384	3,354	3,362	3,363	0.0	-1.9
Yukon	10	11	11	10	11	4.8	10.7
Northwest Territories	35	17	18	17	16	-3.4	-53.7
Nunavut	2	2	1	1	1	3.8	-61.1
Inventories, all trade groups	44,331	46,242	45,956	45,718	45,674	-0.1	3.0
Food products	3,329	3,489	3,591	3,564	3,626	1.7	8.9
Beverage, drug and tobacco products	3,394	3,645	3,723	3,712	3,876	4.4	14.2
Apparel and dry goods	1,286	1,353	1,358	1,367	1,362	-0.3	6.0
Household goods	1,675	1,641	1,641	1,624	1,649	1.5	-1.5
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	6,532	7,424	7,344	7,196	7,033	-2.3	7.7
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	3,713	3,741	3,710	3,697	3,723	0.7	0.3
Lumber and building materials	4,346	4,641	4,496	4,496	4,501	0.1	3.6
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	1,898	1,984	1,995	1,979	1,953	-1.3	2.9
Industrial and other machinery, equipment and supplies	10,266	10,242	10,276	10,239	10,164	-0.7	-1.0
Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery	1,993	1,926	1,878	1,832	1,701	-7.2	-14.7
Other products	5,899	6,157	5,944	6,012	6,085	1.2	3.2

^r Revised figures.

^p Preliminary figures.

OTHER RELEASES

Health of rural Canadians

2000/01

Canadians living in rural and northern areas have a less favourable perception of their health than their urban counterparts, according to a new report.

The study, which used data from the 2000/01 Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS), found significant differences in certain health indicators between urban and rural Canada. The survey covered a population of more than 130,000 people aged 12 and older.

Health risk behaviours, such as smoking and excessive weight problems, were significantly higher in small town regions, rural regions and northern areas of the country.

In addition, the northern regions of Canada had a significantly higher-than-average share of the population who were likely to suffer a major depressive episode, as well as a higher proportion of the population with high blood pressure.

Rural regions and small metropolitan areas had a higher-than-average prevalence of people who reported either arthritis or rheumatism, even after age was taken into account.

In addition, northern regions had higher unmet health care needs, compared with the national average. About two-thirds of residents in northern remote communities live more than 100 km from a physician; 7% of Canadians in rural and small-town Canada live more than 25 km from a physician.

According to CCHS data, 29% of people living in the fringe of major metropolitan cities (those with populations of more than 1 million) rated their health as excellent. This compares with only 20% of those in rural regions and 21% of those in northern regions.

CCHS data also showed that, overall, about 26% of Canadians aged 12 and over smoked either daily or on an occasional basis in 2000/01. However, 33% of those in northern regions smoked, as did 32% of those living in rural regions. This compares with only 22% in major metropolitan cities.

The prevalence of problems over excessive weight also increased in rural areas. Nationally, an estimated 32% of the population aged 20 to 64 was overweight or obese. This ranged from a low of almost 27% in major metropolitan regions to more than 40% in rural and northern regions.

Research has identified obesity as a major risk factor leading to chronic health problems such as diabetes, arthritis, high blood pressure, heart disease, colorectal cancer and respiratory problems.

According to the report, initiatives are underway in Canada to develop a set of health indicators specifically for rural communities.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3226.

The *Rural and small town Canada analysis bulletin*, Vol. 4, no. 6 (21-006-XIE, free), titled "The health of rural Canadians: A rural-urban comparison of health indicators" is now available on Statistics Canada's website. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Population and demography*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Verna Mitura (613-951-5206; verna.mitura@statcan.ca) or Ray D. Bollman (613-951-3747; ray.bollman@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Cereals and oilseeds review

August 2003

In September, Chicago corn and soybean futures' prices were mainly supply-driven. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) mid-month supply-demand forecasts lowered this year's soybean production well below market expectations and placed the 2003 corn crop at a higher-than-expected level. Soybeans futures' prices jumped, as hot, dry conditions in the last half of August reduced soybean yields, especially in the western regions of the US Midwest. A weaker US dollar, more recent reports of low yields and Chinese demand for US soybeans added momentum to the bull market. Corn futures, however, fell when the USDA indicated that corn yields were minimally affected by drought in the Midwest.

Winnipeg canola futures prices were propelled by the rally boosting the soybean complex and increased domestic crush demand. Canola gains were kept in check by the harvest of a larger-than-expected canola crop, increased deliveries and a higher exchange rate.

Data from the August 2003 issue of the *Cereals and oilseeds review* are now available. The information includes data on production, stocks, cash and futures prices, domestic processing, exports, farmers' deliveries, and supply-disposition analyses.

The September situation report, an overview of current market conditions, both domestic and international, is also included in the August issue of *Cereals and oilseeds review* (22-007-XIB, \$12/\$120;

22-007-XPB, \$17/\$160), which will be available soon. See *How to order products*.

For general information, contact Client Services (1-800-465-1991; agriculture@statcan.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Les Macartney (613-951-8714; les.macartney@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division. ■

Monthly railway carloadings

August 2003

In August, non-intermodal traffic totalled 235,000 carloadings and 18.6 million metric tonnes, down 2.1% from August 2002 and 5.9% from July.

Reductions in loadings of iron ore and concentrates and of coal explain the drop in tonnage from July. These two commodities, however, remain the top two, respectively accounting for 16% and 11% of the total tonnage for August. Other commodities such as forest products (-244,000 tonnes) and potash (-159,000 tonnes) also fell. Other cereal grains and fresh chilled or dried vegetable went up 180,000 tonnes, an expected rise for the end of the summer.

The cumulative total for the first eight months of 2003 (excluding intermodal loadings) reached 150.9 million tonnes, compared with 159.9 million in 2002.

Loadings for intermodal traffic, that is, containers on flat cars and trailers on flat cars, totalled 2.1 million tonnes, about the same as August 2002. However, this represents a decrease of 4.9% from July. January-to-August tonnage reached 17.3 million tonnes, compared with 16.2 million for the same period of 2002.

Traffic received from the United States destined for Canada or the United States reached 2.3 million

tonnes, down 2.0% from July. From January to August, US loadings reached 19.9 million tonnes, compared with 17.4 million in 2002.

Available on CANSIM: table 404-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2732.

The August 2003 issue of *Monthly railway carloadings*, Vol. 80, no. 8 (52-001-XIE, \$8/\$77) 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 Jean-Robert Larocque (1-866-500-8400; fax: 1-613-951-0009; transportationstatistics@statcan.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Restaurants, caterers and taverns

August 2003

Total receipts of restaurants, caterers and taverns in August were an estimated \$3.08 billion, up 0.5% over the August 2002 estimate.

Available on CANSIM: table 355-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2419.

The August 2003 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. ■

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