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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, July 23, 2003
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MAJOR RELEASES

OTHER RELEASES

NEW PRODUCTS

Perspectives on labour and income
July 2003 online edition

The July 2003 online edition of *Perspectives on labour and income*, released today, features two articles. "Information technology workers" calls on the 2001 Census. Revealing much more detail than previously, this article examines the occupational classifications for workers in this field, and discusses the characteristics of these workers who responded to the demand in the information, communication and technology industry during the 1990s.

"Property taxes" looks at differences in property taxes across the country, and explains the burden they impose in relation to income tax on low and high-income homeowners. An accompanying fact-sheet provides further details on property taxes by province.

The July 2003 online edition of *Perspectives on labour and income*, Vol. 4 no. 7 (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.

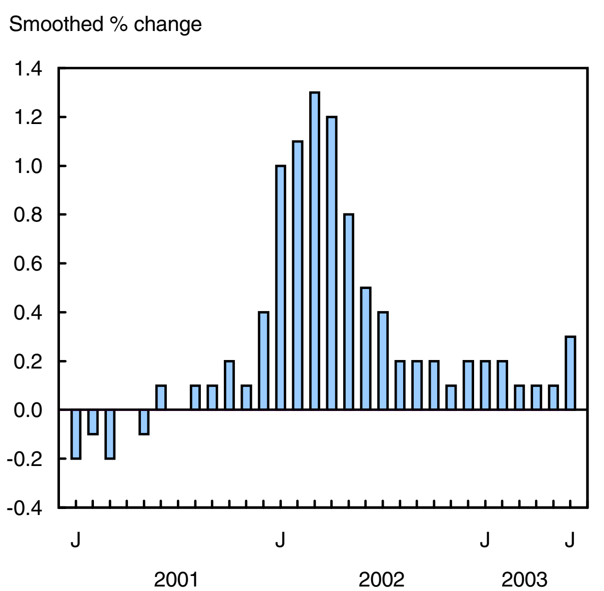
MAJOR RELEASES

Leading indicators

June 2003

The composite leading index posted a moderate gain of 0.3% in June, slightly stronger than the growth over the past year. Six of the ten components advanced, one more than in May. The rebound in the stock market in recent months continued, reinforced by a firming of housing and an upturn in services. The only components that fell originated in manufacturing.

Composite index



All the indicators of household demand rose or were stable. Housing led the way with a 0.7% gain in June, its best since a 2.2% advance in February. Both housing starts and existing home sales increased, as employment rebounded from two consecutive losses and mortgage rates stayed low. Sales of durable goods, which have been very volatile in recent months due to rebate programs for autos, turned up. Services employment recovered by 0.3% with the easing of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) infections.

The US leading indicator also rose slightly after two months of following a downward trend. However, most of the upturn originated in consumer confidence as the war in Iraq came to an end. Consumer spending remained sluggish due to weak incomes.

All three manufacturing components fell. New orders turned down, while higher inventories reduced the ratio of shipments to stocks for a third straight month. Lumber and industrial goods accounted for much of this weakness, reflecting sluggish export demand and investment spending in North America.

Available on CANSIM: table 377-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1601.

A more detailed analysis of the components is available on Statistics Canada's website (*www.statcan.ca*). From the *Canadian statistics* page, choose *Economic conditions*, then click on the banner ad for *Canadian economic observer*. From that page, choose *Issues of CEO*, then *Composite Index*. For more information on the economy, consult the July 2003 issue of *Canadian economic observer*, Vol. 16, no. 7 (11-010-XIB, $17/$170; 11-010-XPB, $23/$227), available soon. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627; *francine.roy@statcan.ca*) Current Economic Analysis Group. □

Leading indicators

	January 2003	February 2003	March 2003	April 2003	May 2003	June 2003	Last month of data available
							% change
Composite leading indicator (1992=100)	180.1	180.5	180.7	180.9	181.0	181.5	0.3
Housing index (1992=100)[1]	128.5	131.3	130.5	129.1	129.3	130.2	0.7
Business and personal services employment ('000)	2,597	2,610	2,623	2,626	2,622	2,629	0.3
S&P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000)	6,437	6,512	6,530	6,534	6,583	6,665	1.2
Money supply, M1 ($ millions, 1992)[2]	111,054	110,533	109,944	109,899	111,227	112,084	0.8
U.S. composite leading indicator (1992=100)[3]	110.0	110.0	110.1	110.1	110.0	110.1	0.1
Manufacturing							
Average workweek (hours)	39.2	39.2	39.2	39.2	39.2	39.1	-0.3
New orders, durables ($ millions, 1992)[4]	21,824	21,475	21,129	20,999	21,034	20,917	-0.6
Shipments/inventories of finished goods[4]	1.80	1.78	1.78	1.77	1.76	1.75	-0.01[5]
Retail trade							
Furniture and appliance sales ($ millions, 1992)[4]	1,809	1,822	1,836	1,842	1,846	1,847	0.0
Other durable goods sales ($ millions, 1992)[4]	7,640	7,634	7,607	7,652	7,643	7,652	0.1
Unsmoothed composite leading indicator	180.9	180.9	180.8	180.8	181.7	183.4	0.9

1 *Composite index of housing starts (units) and house sales (multiple listing service).*
2 *Deflated by the Consumer Price Index for all items.*
3 *The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the month immediately preceding.*
4 *The figures in this row reflect data published in the month indicated, but the figures themselves refer to data for the second preceding month.*
5 *Difference from previous month.*

■

Private and public investment

2003 (revised intentions)

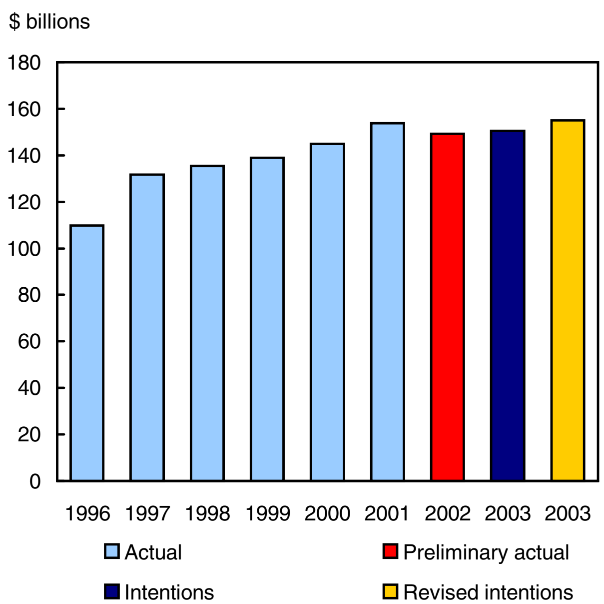
Total capital spending in Canada on plant, equipment and housing should reach the $212 billion mark in 2003, up 2.2% from the February forecast, according to revised intentions of public and private investment.

Total investment is expected to reach $212.5 billion this year. This would represent a 4.0% increase from 2002, doubling the increase anticipated in first intentions announced in February.

This new strength is coming from established sectors such as manufacturing and conventional oil and gas extraction, while there is still no sign of renewed spending by the information and communication technology industries. The public sector and housing are, nonetheless, contributing over half of the increase.

Housing investment alone is expected to rise 4.2% to $57.4 billion as a result of increases in the two major components: new housing and renovations.

Plant and equipment spending increases



Businesses, governments and institutions are expected to invest $155.1 billion on plant and equipment, compared with $149.3 billion for 2002. This would be an increase of 3.9% from 2002.

Note to readers

Revised investment intentions are based on a sample survey of 27,000 businesses, governments and institutions. The survey, which was conducted from April to June 2003, had an 80% response rate that covers 88% of the designed sample weight. The coefficient of variation, which measures the precision of the estimated data, is 0.9% at the Canada level. Data in this release are calendarized and expressed in current dollars. Users should take note that data have been revised back to 1999 to account for revisions in the System of National Accounts for software.

Some new strength in business investment

Manufacturing industries now expect an increase of $2.3 billion over 2002, restoring nearly the entire decline in 2002. This increase is coming from motor vehicle manufacturing, paper mills, and aluminum production.

The finance and insurance sector is expecting a billion dollar increase in 2003, this on the heels of $2 billion drop for 2002. Banks and auto leasing take credit for the 10.9% increase in the sector.

While spending in the oil and gas sector appears flat at just over $23 billion, the conventional oil extraction industry is expecting a $2.2 billion increase, largely from east coast off shore work. The non-conventional industry, meanwhile, expects a $2 billion drop as a result of completed projects.

Another strong increase in local government spending

Capital spending by municipalities in 2003 is expected to reach $11.1 billion, up 13.8% over investment levels for 2002. The increase is concentrated in construction spending on infrastructure.

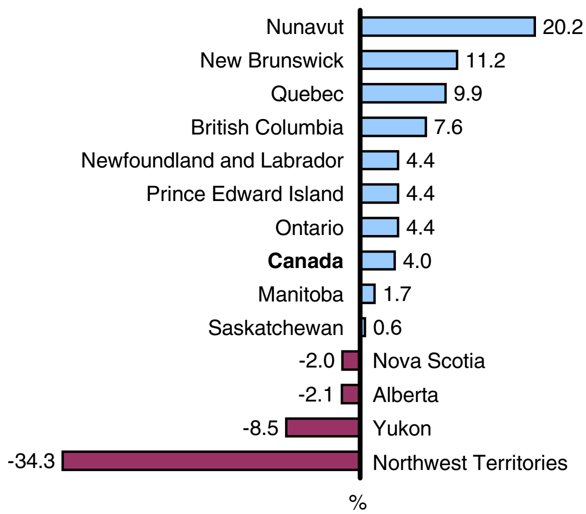
Combined with all other levels of government, spending by departments should reach $21.1 billion in 2002, a 6.7% increase.

Investment in ICT continues to fall

Investment by the information and communication technology (ICT) sector is expected to amount to $10.4 billion in 2003, a 12.2% decline.

A decline of 25.7% is anticipated in the manufacturing component. Goods-related services and intangible services are expected to drop 14.6% and 10.6%, respectively.

Nunavut and New Brunswick expect to outpace other regions in spending increases



Nine regions expect increases

Most regions are still expecting increases, the largest being Nunavut (+20.2%) and New Brunswick (+11.2%). The largest decrease is in the Northwest Territories (-34.3%), largely due to the completion of diamond mining projects.

Available on CANSIM: tables 029-0005, 029-0007 to 029-0022, 029-0024, 032-0001, 032-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2803 and 2804.

The publication *Private and public investment in Canada, revised intentions 2003* (61-206-XIB, $33) 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 Gilbert Paquette (1-800-571-0494; 613-951-9818; *gilbert@statcan.ca*) or John Foley (1-877-338-2368; 613-951-1387; *foley@statcan.ca*), Investment and Capital Stock Division.

Capital spending intentions of private and public organizations

	Preliminary Actual 2002	2003 Intentions	2003 Revised Intentions	Intentions 2003 to Revised Intentions 2003	Preliminary Actual 2002 to Revised Intentions 2003
	$ millions			% change	
Total	**204,333.9**	**207,880.6**	**212,456.9**	**2.2**	**4.0**
Plant and equipment	149,251.2	150,476.9	155,053.2	3.0	3.9
Housing	55,082.7	57,403.7	57,403.7	0.0	4.2
North American Industry Classification System sectors					
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	4,067.4	4,127.1	4,090.6	-0.9	0.6
Mining and oil and gas extraction	26,672.0	24,293.2	26,577.9	9.4	-0.4
Utilities	11,310.5	11,232.9	11,995.3	6.8	6.1
Construction	3,412.7	3,603.7	3,591.5	-0.3	5.2
Manufacturing	16,545.4	17,595.6	18,813.0	6.9	13.7
Wholesale trade	3,315.0	3,520.4	3,641.7	3.4	9.9
Retail trade	5,293.2	5,600.6	5,787.0	3.3	9.3
Transportation and warehousing	11,330.8	11,544.4	11,236.9	-2.7	-0.8
Information and cultural industries	9,861.9	9,210.4	8,668.8	-5.9	-12.1
Finance and insurance	10,618.8	11,473.0	11,772.4	2.6	10.9
Real estate and rental and leasing	8,273.8	8,321.3	8,627.6	3.7	4.3
Professional, scientific and technical services	2,979.0	2,761.1	2,998.9	8.6	0.7
Management of companies and enterprises	157.5	156.5	152.6	-2.5	-3.1
Administrative support, waste management and remediation services	658.2	670.2	689.3	2.8	4.7
Educational services	6,015.5	6,057.7	5,712.5	-5.7	-5.0
Health care and social assistance	5,078.0	5,308.5	5,604.0	5.6	10.4
Arts, entertainment and recreation	1,303.7	1,506.8	1,568.2	4.1	20.3
Accommodation and food services	1,335.3	1,203.8	1,133.2	-5.9	-15.1
Other services (except public administration)	1,232.5	1,253.3	1,269.4	1.3	3.0
Public administration	19,789.9	21,036.4	21,122.6	0.4	6.7

Note: *Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.*

Capital spending intentions of private and public organizations

	Year	Capital expenditures: Construction	Machinery and equipment	Total	Intentions 2003 to Revised Intentions 2003[1]	Preliminary Actual 2002 to Revised Intentions 2003[1]
		$ millions			% change	
Canada[1]	**2002**	**122,694.3**	**81,639.6**	**204,333.9**		
	2003	**126,122.3**	**81,758.3**	**207,880.6**		
	2003	**128,363.1**	**84,093.8**	**212,456.9**	**2.2**	**4.0**
Newfoundland and Labrador	2002	2,105.8	1,425.1	3,531.0		
	2003	2,273.8	982.8	3,256.6		
	2003	2,422.9	1,262.4	3,685.3	13.2	4.4
Prince Edward Island	2002	390.7	250.3	641.1		
	2003	364.4	254.2	618.6		
	2003	401.2	268.0	669.2	8.2	4.4
Nova Scotia	2002	3,304.3	2,326.2	5,630.5		
	2003	3,567.6	1,760.7	5,328.3		
	2003	3,606.5	1,911.1	5,517.5	3.6	-2.0
New Brunswick	2002	2,047.0	1,349.9	3,397.0		
	2003	2,136.0	1,412.1	3,548.1		
	2003	2,358.8	1,417.0	3,775.8	6.4	11.2
Quebec	2002	23,357.4	15,613.0	38,970.4		
	2003	26,121.0	16,489.9	42,610.9		
	2003	25,588.5	17,232.1	42,820.6	0.5	9.9
Ontario	2002	42,078.2	33,176.1	75,254.3		
	2003	43,465.2	33,618.6	77,083.8		
	2003	43,659.8	34,932.6	78,592.4	2.0	4.4
Manitoba	2002	3,035.3	2,644.7	5,680.0		
	2003	2,919.9	2,849.2	5,769.1		
	2003	2,987.0	2,790.9	5,777.9	0.2	1.7
Saskatchewan	2002	4,268.3	2,212.3	6,480.6		
	2003	3,953.7	2,347.6	6,301.2		
	2003	4,105.3	2,411.9	6,517.2	3.4	0.6
Alberta	2002	26,653.2	14,125.4	40,778.6		
	2003	25,306.6	13,207.5	38,514.1		
	2003	26,608.3	13,303.5	39,911.8	3.6	-2.1
British Columbia	2002	13,933.7	8,129.6	22,063.3		
	2003	14,920.2	8,522.3	23,442.5		
	2003	15,517.0	8,217.0	23,734.0	1.2	7.6
Yukon	2002	198.0	102.3	300.3		
	2003	175.5	92.9	268.5		
	2003	182.5	92.2	274.7	2.3	-8.5
Northwest Territories	2002	1,134.4	243.0	1,377.4		
	2003	704.5	166.0	870.5		
	2003	709.1	195.4	904.5	3.9	-34.3
Nunavut	2002	187.7	42.0	229.6		
	2003	213.7	54.7	268.4		
	2003	216.3	59.6	275.9	2.8	20.2

1 *Preliminary Actual 2002, followed by Intentions 2003 and then Revised Intentions 2003.*
Note: *Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.*

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OTHER RELEASES

The control and sale of alcoholic beverages in Canada

Fiscal year ended March 31, 2002

The publication *The control and sale of alcoholic beverages in Canada* contains graphical analyses and detailed information pertaining to the data that were released in the *Daily* on July 9, 2003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1726.

The publication *The control and sale of alcoholic beverages in Canada*, 2002 (63-202-XIB, $29) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or quality of this release, contact Jean-Marc de Beaumont (613-951-1829; Fax: 613-951-0661; *jean-marc.de-beaumont@statcan.ca*), Public Institutions Division. ■

Primary iron and steel

May 2003

Data on primary iron and steel are now available for May.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0010.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2106, 2116 and 2184.

The May 2003 issue of *Primary iron and steel*, Vol 58, no. 5 (41-001-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*) Maufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

Refined petroleum products

February 2003

Data on the supply and disposition and domestic sales of refined petroleum products are now available for February.

Available on CANSIM: tables 134-0001 to 134-0004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2150.

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; *energ@statcan.ca*), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division. ■

NEW PRODUCTS

Primary iron and steel, May 2003, Vol. 58, no. 5
Catalogue number 41-001-XIB ($5/$47).

Capital expenditure price statistics, First quarter 2003, Vol. 19, no. 1
Catalogue number 62-007-XPB ($24/$79).

Retail trade, May 2003, Vol. 75, no. 5
Catalogue number 63-005-XIB ($16/$155).

The control and sale of alcoholic beverages in Canada, 2002
Catalogue number 63-202-XIB ($29).

Perspectives on labour and income, July 2003, Vol. 4, no. 7
Catalogue number 75-001-XIE ($5/$48).

Quarterly demographic statistics, First quarter 2003, Vol. 17, no. 1
Catalogue number 91-002-XIB ($8/$25).

Quarterly demographic statistics, First quarter 2003, Vol. 17, no. 1
Catalogue number 91-002-XPB ($10/$33).

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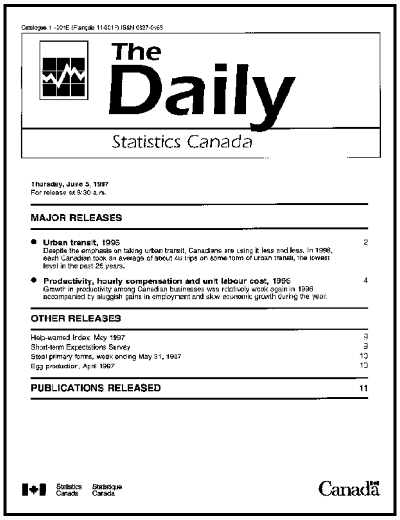
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The Daily

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 46 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 relatively weak again in 1996 accompanied by sluggish gains in employment and slow economic growth during the year.

OTHER RELEASES

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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

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