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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, October 29, 2004
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

MAJOR RELEASES

(continued on page 2)

Education Matters

The fourth issue of Statistics Canada's online publication, *Education Matters: Insights on Education, Learning and Training in Canada*, contains two articles.

"The gap in achievement between boys and girls" examines the gender gap in academic achievement, the drop-out rate and participation in post-secondary education.

"Children of immigrants: How well do they do in school?" compares the academic performance of children of families who immigrated to Canada in the 1990s to that of children of Canadian-born parents. It also examines changes in the size of the gap through time.

Education Matters is a free online publication released every two months. A source of facts and analysis on education, training and learning, *Education Matters* offers quick access to the latest education indicators and in-depth research from Statistics Canada. It also links electronically to a wide variety of data, news on education, learning resources and tables, charts and analysis.

The fourth issue of *Education Matters: Insights on Education, Learning and Training in Canada* (81-004-XIE free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Education*, then *Education Matters*.

For more information, contact Client Services (telephone: 1 800 307-3382 or 613-951-7608; fax: 613-951-9040; email: *educationstats@statcan.ca*), Centre for Education Statistics.

OTHER RELEASES

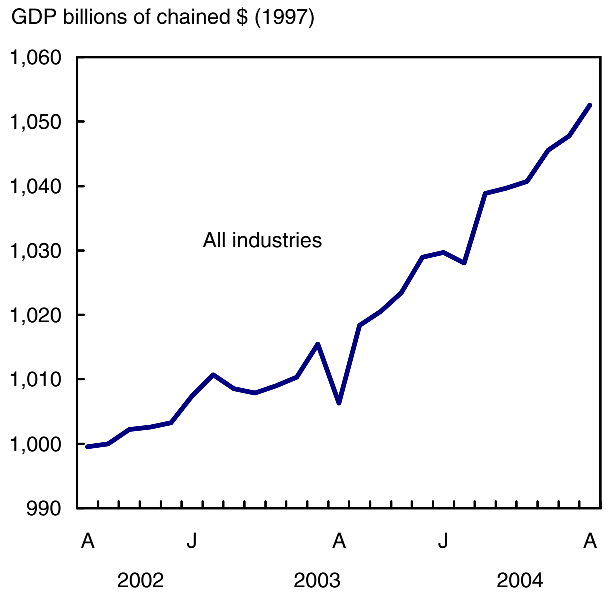
MAJOR RELEASES

Gross Domestic Product by Industry

August 2004

Canada's gross domestic product (GDP) picked up steam in August, increasing by 0.5% after a 0.2% advance in July. Both the goods and service producing sectors contributed to this strength. Stronger domestic demand, a build-up of manufacturing inventories, and the end of extended planned shutdowns were behind this growth.

Economy picks up steam



The goods producing sector was pushed by manufacturing and utilities, while the service producing sector was spurred by wholesale and retail trade as well as by the finance, insurance and real estate industries. The main sources of weakness were in construction, forestry and some tourism related industries.

Industrial production (the output of Canada's factories, mines and utilities) was up 0.9% in August, marking six consecutive months of expansion. The output of all three sectors was up: factories (+1.0%), mines (+0.4%) and utilities (+1.2%). In the United States, the Index of industrial production edged down 0.2% in August, pulled back by mining and utilities.

Note to readers

In September 2002 (reference month: July 2002), the monthly Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by industry program introduced the first stage of a conversion to a Chain Fisher formula, by adopting annually chained Fisher Input-output benchmarks in its calculation of real GDP for 1997 to 2001. However, beginning with January 2002 onwards, the monthly estimates are derived by chaining a Laspeyres volume index at 2001 prices to the prior period. The monthly GDP data are expressed in chained dollars with 1997 as reference year. This conversion brings the monthly GDP by industry estimates more in line with the quarterly expenditure-based GDP data, chained quarterly. For more information, see the Chain Fisher Volume Index *page on our Web site.*

Revisions

With this release of monthly GDP by industry, revisions have been made back to January 2004.

Manufacturing sector on a roll

Output of the Canadian manufacturing sector increased 1.0% in August after a 0.4% increase in July. Stronger domestic demand coupled with a build-up of inventories fuelled the increase. Growth was largely concentrated in the fabrication of durable goods: transportation equipment, machinery, and fabricated metal products. Chemicals, beverage and tobacco products were the main sources of growth in non-durable manufacturing. Wood products and the manufacturing of information and communication technology products retreated from a July surge.

Both motor vehicle (+3.8%) and motor vehicle parts (+2.1%) production increased after plants reopened following longer than usual shutdowns in July. Output of the railroad rolling stock industry increased 1.9% due to the increased demand for railcars across North America. The production of all types of machinery was up, particularly engines, power turbines and power transmission equipment (+9.1%) and metalwork machinery (+4.9%). Manufacturers of fabricated metal products, such as architectural products and machine shops, continued their brisk pace in August (+1.6%) for a third month in a row. Output of foundries was down because of supply problems. A strike weakened the production of aluminum products.

The production of chemicals was up 1.2% due to the increased output of basic chemicals (+2.2%) such as petrochemicals and industrial gases, and of other chemicals (+3.3%) such as printing ink. Brewers (+2.3%) and distillers (+3.9%) increased output while tobacco manufacturers stoked up their production 9.8%. After a strong June and July, wood products manufacturing was down on account of reduced output by sawmills (-1.5%) and millwork (-2.1%). Forestry and logging activity fell by 2.6% in August, as dry conditions in British Columbia prompted logging companies to reduce harvesting operations.

Brisk trade for retailers and wholesalers

Retailing activity rose 1.1% in August following a 0.4% increase in July. Increased customer traffic was recorded at automotive stores (new motor vehicle dealers, used and recreational motor vehicle and parts dealers, and gasoline stations). Building and outdoor home supplies stores continued to benefit from strong demand for their products. Computer and software stores reported the strongest growth of all retail trade groups. Convenience, specialty food, beer, wine and liquor stores also showed large increases in sales. In August, consumers reduced their spending on clothing and accessories, which may have affected general merchandise stores, including department stores.

Wholesaling services rose 0.8% in August on the heels of a 0.9% increase in July. Much of the gain stemmed from a surge in sales of automotive products (vehicles, parts and accessories), and sales of machinery and electronic equipment, due to the robust demand for products such as laptops and cellular phones. The most significant declines in activity were reported by wholesalers of personal and household goods, and by wholesalers of oilseed and grain (where a significant increase in commodity prices occurred).

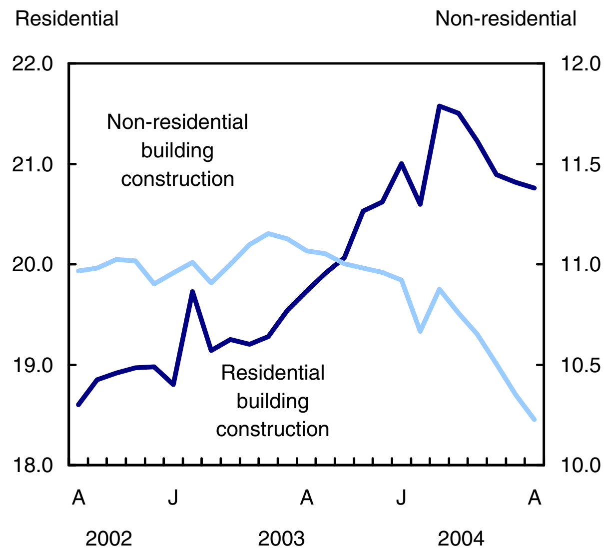
Construction continues to decline

Construction activity declined in August for a fifth month in a row. Residential construction decreased by 0.3%. Housing starts for single residential units were down 5.3%. Housing starts however were up 12% for all types of dwellings, with all of the increase coming from multiple dwelling units. All regions except Quebec saw an increase in housing starts. Housing sales continued to slumber in August, lowering the output of real estate agents and brokers by 0.1%.

Non-residential building construction was down 1.2%, its fifth consecutive decline, standing 9.2% below its peak of June 2003. All types of non-residential buildings (industrial, commercial and institutional) registered declines. Engineering, repair and other construction activities declined 0.2%.

Construction continues to decline

GDP billions of chained $ (1997)



Mining hampered by strikes

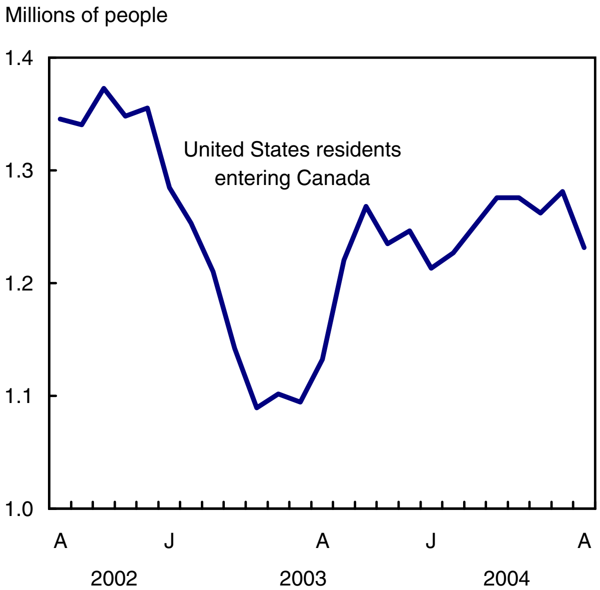
Activity in the mining sector increased 0.4%, shored up by diamond production, as a strike reduced the output of iron ore by 37%. The production of potash retracted from its July peak by 2.6%. Extraction of oil and gas was reduced by 0.2% as natural gas production returned to its June level. Support activities for mining (mostly drilling and rigging) was up 2.7%, spurred by the higher price for crude oil. The average spot price in US dollars of a barrel of light crude oil increased 9.1% in August from its July average.

Decrease in American tourists

The tourism industry was affected by a steep reduction in the number of travellers from the United States, which may have been influenced by concerns about border delays as a result of increased security, and by a stronger Canadian dollar. Travel to Canada from other countries increased slightly in August. As a result, activity in the accommodation industry dropped 2.4%, while the output of motor vehicle rental and leasing was down 1.8%.

Air transportation, however, increased 0.2% as most airlines improved their efficiency by carrying more passengers per flight.

Steep reduction in American tourists



Other sectors

A reduced volume of transactions on the Canadian stock exchanges lowered the activity of stockbrokers, limiting the growth of the finance, insurance and real estate sector to 0.3% in August. Many Canadians watched the XXVIIIth Olympiad in Athens on television, resulting in a 3.1% increase in the output of radio and television broadcasting.

Available on CANSIM: tables 379-0017 to 379-0022.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 1301 and 1302.

The August 2004 issue of *Gross Domestic Product by Industry*, Vol. 18, no. 8 (15-001-XIE, $12/$118) is now available. See *How to order products*. A print-on-demand version is available at a different price.

Data on gross domestic product by industry for September 2004 will be released on November 30.

For general information or to order data, contact Yolande Chantigny (1-800-887-IMAD; *imad@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Bernard Lefrançois (613-951-3622), Industry Measures and Analysis Division.

□

Monthly gross domestic product by industry at basic prices in chained dollars (1997)

	March 2004[r]	April 2004[r]	May 2004[r]	June 2004[r]	July 2004[r]	August 2004[p]	August 2004	August 2003 to August 2004
	seasonally adjusted							
	month-to-month % change						$ level[1]	% change
All industries	**1.1**	**0.1**	**0.1**	**0.5**	**0.2**	**0.5**	**1,052,578**	**4.6**
Goods-producing industries	**1.3**	**0.1**	**0.2**	**0.4**	**0.3**	**0.6**	**330,596**	**5.3**
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	1.9	-1.5	0.7	-0.9	1.1	-0.3	23,665	2.9
Mining and oil and gas extraction	-0.9	1.4	1.0	-0.9	-0.1	0.4	37,968	1.9
Utilities	-1.1	1.1	0.5	-0.3	0.9	1.2	25,918	1.2
Construction	2.2	-0.3	-0.2	-1.6	-0.5	-0.4	57,177	1.3
Manufacturing	2.1	-0.1	0.0	1.7	0.4	1.0	185,490	8.8
Services-producing industries	**0.9**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.5**	**0.2**	**0.4**	**723,131**	**4.3**
Wholesale trade	5.1	0.2	-0.7	1.5	0.9	0.8	67,245	15.1
Retail trade	0.8	-0.8	-0.2	0.3	0.4	1.1	59,879	2.7
Transportation and warehousing	1.5	0.9	0.8	0.4	-0.2	-0.1	50,371	6.7
Information and cultural industries	0.7	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.3	-0.0	43,185	1.8
Finance, insurance and real estate	0.7	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.3	211,099	3.7
Professional, scientific and technical services	0.5	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	46,475	2.8
Administrative and waste management services	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.2	0.5	22,265	3.6
Education services	0.6	0.2	0.4	1.3	-0.8	0.3	45,719	2.7
Health care and social assistance	0.0	-0.9	-0.0	1.7	0.4	0.2	63,101	2.0
Arts, entertainment and recreation	-0.4	0.7	-0.6	-0.4	0.6	3.4	9,907	6.8
Accommodation and food services	0.7	-1.8	0.8	-0.6	0.3	0.1	23,275	2.1
Other services (except public administration)	-0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.1	0.2	24,493	2.0
Public administration	0.1	0.0	-0.2	0.5	0.3	0.1	57,642	4.0
Other aggregations								
Industrial production	1.1	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.4	0.9	249,958	6.4
Non-durable manufacturing industries	1.2	-0.1	-0.1	1.7	0.1	0.6	75,387	6.2
Durable manufacturing industries	2.7	-0.0	0.1	1.6	0.7	1.3	109,965	10.7
Business sector industries	1.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.5	894,228	4.9
Non-business sector industries	0.2	-0.4	-0.0	1.2	0.0	0.3	158,564	2.7
Information and communication technologies industries	1.4	-0.3	1.2	0.4	1.8	1.1	62,356	14.4
Energy sector	-1.5	1.6	0.4	-0.7	-0.1	0.4	60,124	0.7

r *Revised figures.*
p *Preliminary figures.*
1. *Millions of dollars at annual rate.*

■

Control and sale of alcoholic beverages

Fiscal year ending March 31, 2003

Beer is still by far the most popular alcoholic beverage among Canadian consumers, but their tastes are swinging more and more to imported brands, according to new data on sales.

As of March 31, 2003, imported beer had captured 12.2% of Canada's total beer market in terms of value, up from 9.6% the year before.

At the same time, consumer passion for spirit-based coolers was surging, while sales of wine coolers fell for the first time in eight years.

Sales of alcoholic beverages
2003

	Beer	Wine	Spirits	Total
	in thousands of dollars			
Newfoundland and Labrador	169,778	30,169	89,491	289,437
Prince Edward Island	31,214	8,159	21,587	60,960
Nova Scotia	224,592	68,320	154,447	447,359
New Brunswick	192,437	49,447	84,470	326,354
Quebec	2,266,905	1,324,596	497,017	4,088,518
Ontario	2,903,075	1,267,618	1,542,766	5,713,459
Manitoba	212,687	73,726	179,015	465,429
Saskatchewan	201,988	36,904	152,028	390,920
Alberta	712,906	299,007	470,479	1,482,392
British Columbia	915,801	529,525	604,581	2,049,907
Yukon	12,363	4,141	7,645	24,151
Northwest Territories	17,977	4,233	16,267	38,477
Nunavut	2,715	211	899	3,824
Canada	**7,864,437**	**3,696,056**	**3,820,693**	**15,381,186**

In addition, red wine continued to assert its dominance over white wine. However, domestic brands of white wine were wrestling a growing chunk of the market from imported brands.

In total, Canada's beer and liquor stores and agencies sold nearly $15.4 billion in beer, wine, and spirits during 2002/03, up 6.0% from the year before and 47.5% higher from 1992/93.

Beer accounted for 51% of total sales, spirits 25%, and wines 24%, roughly the same proportions as in 2001/02.

On a per capita basis, consumers purchased an average of 85.6 litres of beer, 13.1 litres of wine, and 7.5 litres of spirits in 2002/03. The year before, they bought, on average, 84.7 litres of beer, 12.4 litres of wine, and 7.1 litres of spirits.

Beer: Sales of imported brands surging

In total, Canada's 3,225 beer and liquor stores and agencies sold nearly $7.9 billion worth of beer in 2002/03, up 6.1% from the previous year and a 41.5% increase from a decade earlier.

Note to readers

Statistics on sales of alcoholic beverages by volume should not be equated with data on consumption. Sales volumes include only sales by liquor authorities and their agents, and sales by wineries and breweries and outlets that operate under license from the liquor authorities.

Consumption of alcoholic beverages would include all these sales, plus homemade wine and beer, wine and beer manufactured through brew-on-premises operations, all sales in duty-free shops and any unrecorded transactions.

Similarly, statistics on sales of alcoholic beverages by dollar value of sales should not be equated with consumer expenditures on alcoholic beverages. The sales data refer to the revenues received by liquor authorities etc, and these revenues include sales to licensed establishments such as bars and restaurants. The sales data do not, therefore, reflect the total amount spent by consumers on alcoholic beverages since the prices paid in licensed establishments are greater than the price paid by those establishments to the liquor authorities.

Per capita data is based on the population aged 15 and over.

Sales of imported brands increased at more than 10 times the pace of domestic brands during 2002/03.

Consumers purchased $959.6 million in imported beer, up 34.7% from the previous year and the ninth annual increase in a row. During the same period, sales of domestic brands increased only 3.1% to $6.9 billion.

Sales of beer reached $308 per person during 2002/03. Provincially, per capita sales were highest in Newfoundland and Labrador and lowest in Manitoba.

Domestic and import beer sales
2003

	Canadian	Imported	Total
Province or territory	In thousands of dollars		
Newfoundland and Labrador	165,166	4,612	169,778
Prince Edward Island	30,757	457	31,214
Noval Scotia	212,929	11,662	224,592
New Brunswick	191,298	1,140	192,437
Quebec	2,050,558	216,347	2,266,905
Ontario	2,384,843	518,232	2,903,075
Manitoba	195,887	16,800	212,687
Saskatchewan	199,784	2,204	201,988
Alberta	640,432	72,473	712,906
British Columbia	801,466	114,335	915,801
Yukon	11,843	520	12,363
Northwest Territories	17,257	720	17,977
Nunavut	2,607	108	2,715
Canada	**6,904,827**	**959,610**	**7,864,437**

Wine: Popularity of red wine still growing

In total, liquor stores and their agencies sold nearly $3.7 billion worth of wines in 2002/03, up 9.3% from the previous year and nearly double the level from 1992/93.

Sales of wine reached almost $145 per person during 2002/03. Provincially, per capita sales were highest by far in Quebec and lowest in Saskatchewan.

In terms of value, imported wines accounted for 70.4% of the total Canadian market in 2002/03, virtually the same share as in the previous year. However, the market share varied slightly for red and white varieties.

The popularity of red wine continued to grow. As of March 31, 2003, red wines had captured 56.9% of the red and white wine market in terms of volume, compared with 43.1% for white wines.

Sales of domestic red wines rose 15.1% in 2002/03, compared with a 12.0% increase among imported red wines. As a result, imported products held 72.9% of the red wine market as of March 31, 2003, compared with 27.1% for domestic brands. Quebec consumers bought 41.5% of all red wine sold in Canada in 2002/03.

In terms of white wines, sales of domestic varieties rose 7.7% in 2002/03, three times the growth rate of 2.4% among imported white wine. Imported white wine held 52.2% of the market share while domestic white wine held 47.8%.

Wine coolers: The passion cools

Liquor stores sold over $3.8 billion worth of spirits in 2002/03, up 2.8% from the previous year and an increase of 27.1% from 1992/93.

Sales of imported spirits climbed 4.6% to $1.3 billion, while sales of domestic spirits grew 1.9% to $2.5 billion. Among Canadian products, rum was the top seller, followed by vodka and whisky. Liqueurs were the leading imported product ($365.5 million), outpacing even whisky ($324.6 million).

Sales of spirits reached about $150 per person during 2002/03. Provincially, per capita sales were highest in Newfoundland and Labrador and lowest in Quebec. However, Quebec registered the largest growth in sales of coolers during the year.

After declining during the early 1990s, sales of spirits recovered late in the decade and have increased for seven years in a row. The recovery was due in part to the introduction of spirit-based coolers, sales of which grew strongly during the late 1990s.

However, after several years of gains in both types of coolers, sales of wine-based coolers fell in 2002/03, while sales of spirit-based coolers remained strong.

Consumers purchased just over $337.0 million in spirit-based coolers, both domestic and imported, up 21.3% from the previous year. At the same time, total sales of wine-based coolers fell 11.7% to just under $98.4 million.

As a result, spirit-based coolers made up 77.4% of total cooler sales. The vast majority of this market share (90.8%) was held by domestic products.

Government profits rising

Gross profits from the control and sale of alcoholic beverages reached almost $4.7 billion in 2002/03, up 5.8% from the previous year. Of that amount, $3.4 billion was remitted to the provincial and territorial governments, a 7.8% gain.

Provincially, on a per capita basis, remitted profits were highest in Saskatchewan ($228) and Alberta ($215). Quebec ($88) and Prince Edward Island ($90) had the lowest remittances.

Per capita remittance to the provinces and territories
2003

	$
Newfoundland and Labrador	104
Prince Edward Island	90
Noval Scotia	205
New Brunswick	177
Quebec	88
Ontario	99
Manitoba	181
Saskatchewan	228
Alberta	215
British Columbia	192
Yukon	166
Northwest Territories	620
Nunavut	109
Canada	**133**

Available on CANSIM: tables 183-0005, 183-0006 and 183-0015 to 183-0020.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1726.

The 2003 issue of *The Control and Sale of Alcoholic Beverages in Canada* (63-202-XIE, $31) is now available. See *How to order products*. A print-on-demand version is available for $56. Data are also available in special tabulations.

For more information on products and services, contact Joanne Rice (613-951-0767), Public Institutions Division. For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Claude Vaillancourt (613-951-1820) or Jo-Anne Thibault (613-951-8564), Public Institutions Division. ■

OTHER RELEASES

Canadian Agriculture at a Glance: Teacher's Kit

The *Canadian Agriculture at a Glance* teacher's kit (96-328-MWE, free) keeps on growing, with another crop of seven teaching activities available today. These additional activities bring the total now available free online to 21 lessons—one lesson each for more than half the articles in the new *Canadian Agriculture at a Glance* publication.

Where appropriate, lessons become available during the season relevant to the article. A lesson and article on the pumpkin patch and the move to agri-tourism is a nod to fall. Other enticing titles such as "Growing herbs for the medicine chest," "There's more to organic farming than being pesticide-free," and "Bud the Spud moves west" bring current trends in agriculture into the classroom.

These classroom activities give high school students the opportunity to learn about agriculture in Canada using *Canadian Agriculture at a Glance* (96-325-XPB, $49), which was released on June 9, 2004. This 340-page book contains 40 fascinating, easy-to-read analytical articles, complete with full-colour photos, graphs and other illustrations, making agriculture more accessible to everyone.

The kit is of use to teachers of a wide variety of subjects including geography, mathematics, science and family studies. Each activity is multi-disciplinary and recognizes the range of learning styles within the classroom.

Additional lessons will become available in January and March 2005.

For more information, contact Gaye Ward (613-951-3172), Agriculture Division. ■

Innovation Analysis Bulletin

The innovation analysis bulletin focuses on trends in science, technology and the information society. The bulletin includes updates on government science and technology activities, industrial research and development, intellectual property commercialization, advanced technologies and innovation, biotechnology, connectedness, telecommunications and broadcasting, and electronic commerce.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 4218.

The *Innovation Analysis Bulletin*, Vol. 6, no. 3 (88-003-XIE, free) is now available online. From the *Our products and services* page, under *Browse our Internet publications*, choose *Free*, then *Science and technology*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods and data quality of this release, contact Rad Joseph (613-951-6830; fax: 613-951-9920) or Claire Racine-Lebel (613-951-6309), Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division. ■

Computer and peripherals price indexes
August 2004

Prices for commercial computers were up slightly (+0.2%) from July, as measured by the computer and peripherals price indexes. Consumer computers, representing computer brands and models normally purchased by consumers and small businesses, fell 2.8%.

In the case of computer peripherals, monitor prices for August remained unchanged from July, while printer prices were down 4.9%. Revised data (available from March 2004) resulted in an overall price decline for monitors (-7.9%) and printers (-15.8%) over the last six months.

These indexes are available at the Canada level only.

Available on CANSIM: tables 331-0001 and 331-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5032.

For more information on these indexes, contact Client Services (1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; *infounit@statcan.ca*). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Rebecca McDougall (613-951-3357), Prices Division. ■

Steel primary forms, weekly data
Week ending October 23, 2004 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending October 23 totalled 291 769 metric tonnes, down 7.6% from 315 729 tonnes (revised) a week earlier and down 8.0% from 317 183 tonnes in the same week of 2003.

The year-to-date total as of October 23 was 13 141 222 tonnes (revised), up 3.2% from 12 739 346 tonnes in the same period of 2003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2131.

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

Gross Domestic Product by Industry, August 2004, Vol. 18, no. 8
Catalogue number 15-001-XIE ($12/$118).

The Control and Sale of Alcoholic Beverages in Canada, 2003
Catalogue number 63-202-XIE ($31).

Exports by Commodity, August 2004, Vol. 61, no. 8
Catalogue number 65-004-XMB ($40/$387).

Exports by Commodity, August 2004, Vol. 61, no. 8
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Employment, Earnings and Hours, August 2004, Vol. 82, no. 8
Catalogue number 72-002-XIB ($26/$257).

Education Matters: Insights on Education, Learning and Training in Canada
Catalogue number 81-004-XIE
(free).

Innovation Analysis Bulletin, October 2004, Vol. 6, no. 3
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(free).

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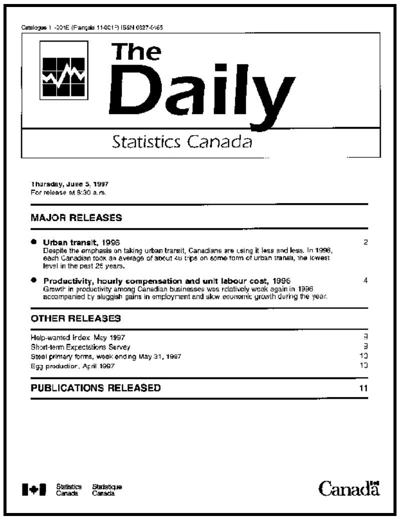
Catalogue 11-001E (Français 11-001F) ISSN 0827-0465

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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9	**Provincial and territorial gross domestic product**	2003
10	**Canadian international merchandise trade**	September 2004
10	**Bipolar I disorder, social support and work**	2002
10	**New Housing Price Index**	September 2004
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26	**International travel account**	Third quarter 2004
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