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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, September 13, 2005
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

Releases

(continued on page 2)

Canadian Social Trends
Autumn 2005

Canadian Social Trends, Statistics Canada's quarterly publication on emerging social issues, features five articles in its Autumn 2005 issue.

The key article "South Asians in Canada: Unity through diversity," available free online, uses data from the 2002 Ethnic Diversity Survey and the 2001 Census to profile the South Asian community, one of Canada's most diverse visible minority groups. South Asians are the second largest visible minority group in Canada, and one of the fastest growing. It is one of the most unified communities in terms of the value they attach to family interaction and the preservation of customs.

The article "What do seniors spend on housing?" examines who seniors live with and the affordability of their homes.

"Preparing for retirement" analyzes non-financial preparations made prior to leaving the labour force by retired Canadians. A related article "What makes retirement enjoyable?" looks at recent retirees' enjoyment of life before and after retirement.

"The changing health of immigrants" assesses the health impact of the immigration process as individuals adjust to life in Canada.

The Autumn 2005 issue of *Canadian Social Trends*, no. 78 (11-008-XIE, $9/$29; 11-008-XPE, $12/$39) is now available. See *How to order our products*.

For more information, contact Client Services and Dissemination (613-951-5979; *sasd-dssea@statcan.ca*), Social and Aboriginal Statistics Division.

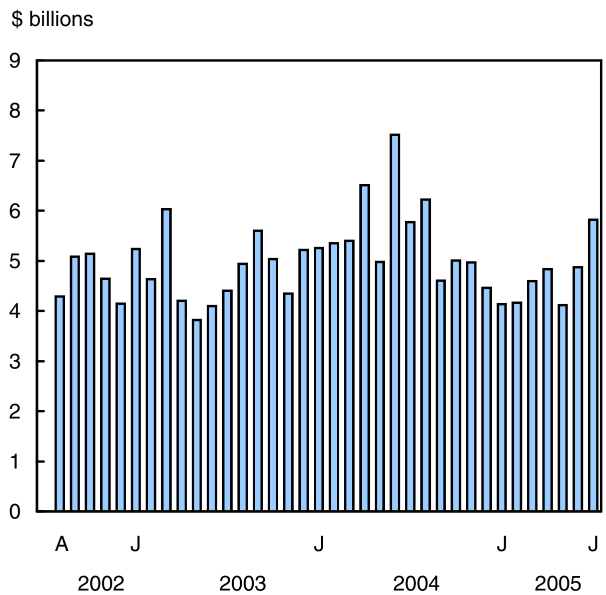
Releases

Canadian international merchandise trade

July 2005

A boom in crude petroleum exports drove Canada's total exports for July to their third highest level on record.

Trade balance



In total, Canadian companies exported just over $38.0 billion worth of merchandise in July, up 2.1% from June.

At the same time, imports edged down 0.5% to $32.2 billion. This put Canada's trade surplus with the world at $5.8 billion, well above the revised level of $4.9 billion in June.

Crude petroleum exports have increased for five consecutive months, setting a new record high with each gain. Since February, they have increased at an average monthly rate of 6.1%.

The total value of merchandise exports in July was a shade below the $38.2 billion recorded in December 2000, but well below the all-time high of $39.1 billion set in January 2001. Exports in these two months reached such heights as a result of peaks in exports of information and communication technology and natural gas.

Canada's trade surplus with the United States rose from $8.2 billion in June to $8.8 billion in July. Exports climbed 2.4% while imports edged up 0.2%.

Note to readers

Merchandise trade is one component of the current account of Canada's balance of payments, which also includes trade in services.

Revisions

In general, merchandise trade data are revised on an ongoing basis for each month of the current year. Customs basis data are revised for the previous data year each quarter.

Factors influencing revisions include late receipt of import and export documentation, incorrect information on customs forms, replacement of estimates with actual figures, changes in classification of merchandise based on more current information, and changes to seasonal adjustment factors.

Revised data are available in the appropriate CANSIM tables.

Exports to the rest of the world increased 1.1% and imports fell 1.8%. As a result, Canada's trade deficit with the rest of the world narrowed from $3.3 billion to $3.0 billion.

Exports to the European Union increased for a second month, jumping 9.6% to $2.7 billion. Uranium shipments to several countries within the bloc contributed to the rise in exports.

Exports: Crude petroleum leads the gain

Canadian companies exported $2.5 billion worth of crude petroleum in July, up 7.5% from June. The vast majority went to the United States.

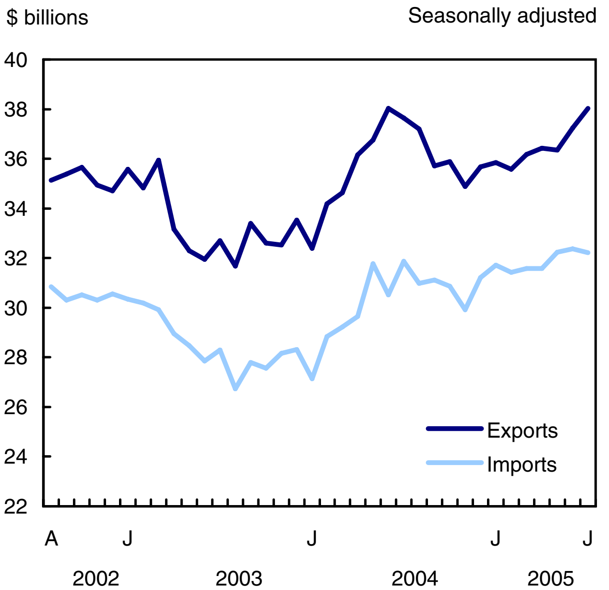
In February, exports of crude petroleum stood at $1.9 billion. Though a volume increase explained the increase in July, price increases have been driving the climb in crude petroleum exports.

In total, energy exports hit more than $7.2 billion, up 8.7% from June. Crude petroleum accounted for just over one-third of all energy exports in July. Natural gas exports account for over 40% and the remainder is comprised of exports of other energy products, which includes coal and electricity.

Natural gas exports also rose substantially in July, up 15.8% to $3.0 billion. Aside from a small decline in May, natural gas exports have increased each month in 2005. Export levels remain well below the record-high of $4.4 billion reached in January 2001.

Exports of other energy products edged up 0.1% as declining exports of coal and electricity were offset by increased exports of gasoline. The drop in coal exports in July followed four strong monthly increases.

Exports and imports



Exports of live cattle increased only slightly in July, despite the United States lifting the export ban on live cattle under the age of 30 months on July 18. According to industry reports, the Canadian meat processing industry has been increasing capacity since the onset of the export ban, thereby offering Canada's farmers a domestic market for their live cattle.

Exports of forestry products tumbled 4.3%, with lumber and sawmill products leading the drop. This was the fifth consecutive month of decline in the export of lumber and sawmill products. These exports, which equalled $1.5 billion in July, peaked in May 2004 at $1.9 billion.

Automotive exports remained virtually flat at just over $7.1 billion. Sustained foreign demand for heavy trucks offset declines in exports of passenger vehicles and motor vehicle parts. Exports of passenger vehicles were increasing in the first two quarters of 2004; however, the trend since June 2004 has been downward.

Pause in investment in machinery and equipment

Canada's imports declined in all major sectors in July, except automotive products where they registered a 1.0% gain. This occurred as several companies built up inventories of motor vehicle parts used in the production of popular models.

Energy imports edged down 0.3% in July as a drop in imports of products such as coal offset a gain in crude petroleum imports, which hit a record high of $1.8 billion in July.

Imports of machinery and equipment fell 1.4%, the first decline for this sector in 2005. During the first six months of the year, imports of machinery employed in industries such as oil and gas, mining, and transportation, concentrated in the Western provinces, had been steadily rising. Imports of information and communication technologies had also increased during this period. Machinery and equipment imports remained high at $9.2 billion, slightly above May levels.

Imports of other consumer goods fell 2.8% from June's record high of $4.2 billion. A decline in imports of miscellaneous end products, comprised primarily of pharmaceutical products, accounted for the majority of the fall.

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003 and 228-0033 to 228-0046.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The July issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 59, no. 7 (65-001-XIB, $15/$151) is now available. See *How to order products*. The publication includes tables by commodity and country on a customs basis. Current account data (which incorporate merchandise trade statistics, service transactions, investment income and transfers) are available quarterly in *Canada's Balance of International Payments* (67-001-XIE, $32/$100).

Merchandise trade data are available in PDF format on the morning of release.

For more information on products and services, contact Anne Couillard, (1-800-294-5583; 613-951-6867). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Diana Wyman (613-951-3116), International Trade Division.

□

Merchandise trade

	June 2005[r]	July 2005	June to July 2005	July 2004 to July 2005	January to July 2004	January to July 2005	January–July 2004 to January–July 2005
	Seasonally adjusted, $ current						
	$ millions		% change		$ millions		% change
Principal trading partners							
Exports							
United States	29,791	30,509	2.4	-0.9	204,206	207,417	1.6
Japan	895	1,011	13.0	11.7	5,919	6,040	2.0
European Union	2,502	2,743	9.6	9.4	15,386	16,621	8.0
Other OECD countries[1]	1,524	1,156	-24.1	-1.8	8,511	8,400	-1.3
All other countries	2,529	2,619	3.6	15.6	15,758	17,170	9.0
Total	**37,240**	**38,039**	**2.1**	**1.0**	**249,782**	**255,649**	**2.3**
Imports							
United States	21,635	21,683	0.2	-2.1	145,174	150,186	3.5
Japan	884	836	-5.4	-4.5	5,840	6,345	8.6
European Union	3,498	3,214	-8.1	0.6	20,899	22,468	7.5
Other OECD countries[1]	1,962	1,979	0.9	9.6	12,845	13,982	8.9
All other countries	4,388	4,504	2.6	17.4	24,233	30,128	24.3
Total	**32,366**	**32,216**	**-0.5**	**1.1**	**208,991**	**223,107**	**6.8**
Balance							
United States	8,156	8,826	...	...	59,032	57,231	...
Japan	11	175	...	...	79	-305	...
European Union	-996	-471	...	...	-5,513	-5,847	...
Other OECD countries[1]	-438	-823	...	...	-4,334	-5,582	...
All other countries	-1,859	-1,885	...	...	-8,475	-12,958	...
Total	**4,874**	**5,823**	**...**	**...**	**40,791**	**32,542**	**...**
Principal commodity groupings							
Exports							
Agricultural and fishing products	2,554	2,522	-1.3	-6.5	18,331	17,279	-5.7
Energy products	6,655	7,237	8.7	17.8	38,810	43,637	12.4
Forestry products	3,089	2,956	-4.3	-15.2	23,165	21,642	-6.6
Industrial goods and materials	7,075	7,197	1.7	6.5	44,639	49,147	10.1
Machinery and equipment	8,152	8,189	0.5	1.4	53,878	55,727	3.4
Automotive products	7,103	7,111	0.1	-7.2	53,170	49,827	-6.3
Other consumer goods	1,482	1,495	0.9	2.6	10,233	10,306	0.7
Special transactions trade[2]	684	713	4.2	3.0	4,615	4,740	2.7
Other balance of payments adjustments	447	619	38.5	-8.4	2,936	3,344	13.9
Imports							
Agricultural and fishing products	1,810	1,804	-0.3	-0.6	12,439	12,763	2.6
Energy products	2,649	2,642	-0.3	14.9	13,460	18,254	35.6
Forestry products	275	262	-4.7	-5.1	1,820	1,889	3.8
Industrial goods and materials	6,596	6,515	-1.2	1.9	41,604	45,864	10.2
Machinery and equipment	9,372	9,241	-1.4	3.3	60,264	63,640	5.6
Automotive products	6,520	6,588	1.0	-6.9	44,970	45,199	0.5
Other consumer goods	4,203	4,087	-2.8	0.6	27,511	28,747	4.5
Special transactions trade[2]	357	489	37.0	17.3	3,052	2,796	-8.4
Other blance of payments adjustments	584	587	0.5	0.7	3,867	3,956	2.3

r *Revised figures*
1 . *Includes Australia, Canada, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, South Korea, Switzerland and Turkey.*
2 . *These are mainly low valued transactions, value of repairs to equipment, and goods returned to country of origin.*
... *Figures not appropriate or not applicable.*

■

Stocks of grain

July 31, 2005

Total stocks of grains and oilseeds, including commercial and on-farm inventories, remain at levels well above their 10-year averages, according to a survey of grain farmers and commercial grain holders.

Total stock estimates of wheat excluding durum, durum wheat, barley, oats and canola were all up over 2004. Stocks of field peas rose to a record high, while stocks of flaxseed fell to a record low.

Farm stocks of corn in the east increased with record stock values set in both Ontario and Quebec. Farm stocks of soybeans also rose in Ontario and Quebec, with a record supply of soybeans reported in Ontario.

Total stocks of major and special crops at July 31

Crop	2004	2005	2004 to 2005
	'000 tonnes		% change
All wheat	6080	7992	31.4
Wheat excl. durum	4291	5471	27.5
Barley	2102	3489	66.0
Durum wheat	1789	2521	40.9
Canola	609	1629	167.5
Oats	788	988	25.4
Dry peas	205	595	190.2
Lentils	38	245	544.7
Mustard seed	92	194	110.9
Canary seed	67	170	153.7
Flax	93	30	-67.7
Sunflower seed	25	18	-28.0

Total stocks of barley well above average

Commercial stocks and on-farm stocks of barley rose in kind to 3.5 million tonnes, a jump from 2.1 million tonnes in July 2004 and the highest level since the record 5.1 million tonnes set in 1983. The recent five-year average is 2.2 million tonnes. All Prairie provinces reported large increases of stocks on-farm. Saskatchewan led the way with a 120% rise to 1.1 million tonnes while Manitoba and Alberta farmers reported gains of 75% and 60% respectively.

Plentiful barley supplies and low prices combined with record animal numbers on farms to increase barley feeding for a second year. However, feeding of barley was limited by abundant competing supplies of feed wheat.

Total wheat stocks rise from 2004

Total wheat stocks, which include commercial stocks, were estimated at 7.9 million tonnes this year, an increase of 31.4% or 1.9 million tonnes over July 2004.

On-farm inventories of total wheat in the Prairie provinces were up by 90.6% from July 2004 — despite substantial feeding of wheat to livestock. Farmers reported on-farm wheat stocks at 3.0 million tonnes in July, a rise of 1.4 million tonnes. Although there was considerable wheat production in 2004, the quality of the crop was poor and prices were low.

Total stocks of durum wheat rose substantially from the low level of 2004, up 40.9% or 732,000 tonnes to 2.5 million tonnes. The 10-year average is 1.7 million tonnes.

On-farm durum stocks rose in a similar fashion, up 40.6% to 1.0 million tonnes, or double the 10-year average. Farmers in the major durum producing provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta reported stock increases from 2004 of 43.3 % and 31.8% respectively.

There were large supplies of durum wheat in 2004/05 but good quality supplies were tight. As export markets were limited by large European Union stocks which pressured prices down, and limited delivery opportunities, domestic feeding of the lower grades of durum wheat rose.

> ***Note to readers***
>
> *The July Farm Survey of 17,600 farm operators was conducted by telephone interviews and over the internet from July 20th to August 5th. Farmers were asked to report the amounts of grains, oilseeds and special crops in on-farm storage.*
>
> *Commercial stocks of western grains originate mainly from the Canadian Grain Commission. Commercial stocks of special crops originate from a survey of handlers and agents of special crops.*

Canola stocks well above the 10-year average

Total stocks of canola were 1.6 million tonnes, up 1.0 million tonnes from the 2004 level of 609,000 tonnes. This increase places the total volume of canola stocks above the 10-year average of 913,000 tonnes for the July 31 period. Increases were reported in commercial stocks and at the Canada farm level. Increases were also reported in all three Prairie provinces, with each province reporting volumes of canola above their 10-year averages.

Canola supplies in 2004/05 were the highest since 2000/01 and it appears that farmers held their canola on farms in anticipation of better prices. Exports and domestic crush, although substantial, declined from 2003/04, leaving a massive year-end carryout.

Oat stocks on the rise

Total stocks of oats rose to 988,000 tonnes, 25.4% more than the level of 2004 and above the recent five and ten year averages. On-farm prairie stocks levels were also strong, up 25.0% from July 2004 to 775,000 tonnes. The record high on-farm stock estimate was 900,000 tonnes in 2000.

Large stocks at the beginning of 2004/05, combined with good production, led to the largest oat supplies in several years. Although a late harvest caused some quality issues and the European Union continued to subsidize oats into the United States, Canadian exports of both oats and their products to the United States rose to almost 1.7 million tonnes. The strong Canadian dollar relative to the US dollar and the large US corn crop pressured prices throughout the year, but prices were still higher than those of competing domestic feed grains. The large on-farm carryout will help to ensure adequate supplies for 2005/06.

Total flaxseed stocks lowest on record

The poor harvest of 2004, combined with strong deliveries prompted by high prices, led to an all time low flaxseed stock of 30,000 tonnes, down from 93,000 in July 2004 and much lower than the previous low of 41,000 tonnes set in 1998. Commercial stocks, and at the provincial level stocks held on farms, shared the same fate. Flaxseed exports and domestic use were limited by the low supplies and high prices.

In Saskatchewan, where most of Canadian flaxseed is grown, stocks were down 66.7% to 15,000 tonnes.

Dry field peas at record levels

Prairie on-farm and commercial stocks of field peas were at record levels. Total stocks of field peas were 595,000 tonnes, up 390,000 tonnes from 2004 and easily surpassing the previous record of 400,000 tonnes set five years ago.

On-farm stock records were also set in Saskatchewan and Alberta, with stock estimates reported at 220,000 tonnes and 80,000 tonnes respectively. Record Canadian and US pea production and a plentiful supply of other feed grains pressured pea prices down, while high ocean freight rates limited export demand at the beginning of the crop year. European Union feed pea demand later in the year prompted exports to eventually rise to over 1.9 million tonnes, however, there were still large volumes of peas carried into the 2005/06 crop year.

On-farm corn for grain stocks jump to records in Quebec and Ontario

On-farm stocks of corn for grain in Quebec rose 58.3% to 950,000 tonnes, easily passing the record set in 2004 of 600,000 tonnes. On-farm corn stocks in Ontario were up 25.0% to 1.3 million tonnes. The previous record was 1.0 million tonnes set in July 2004.

On-farm stocks of soybeans jumped in Ontario and Quebec to 185,000 from 55,000 in July 2004. At 150,000 tonnes, the estimate for Ontario soybeans on farms easily surpasses the previous record of 110,000 tonnes set five years ago.

Commercial stocks of corn and soybeans will be published in the publication *September Estimate of Production of Principal Field Crops* on October 5.

Available on CANSIM: table 001-0040.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3401, 3403, 3443, 3464 and 3476.

The publication *Field Crop Reporting Series: Stocks of Canadian Grain at July 31, 2005*, Vol. 84, no. 6 (22-002-XIB, $12/$71; 22-002-XPB, $17/$95) is now available. See *How to order products*.

For further information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact David Burroughs (613-951-5138; *dave.burroughs@statcan.ca*) or Dave Roeske (613-951-0572; *dave.roeske@statcan.ca*), Agriculture Division. ■

OECD Regions at a Glance

In most member nations of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), national growth is strongly concentrated in a few regions. Thus, national growth is largely determined by the performance of only a few regions, according to a new OECD report.

The report *OECD Regions at a Glance* shows that about three-quarters of Canadian job growth was concentrated in 10% of Canada's 288 census divisions between 1996 and 2001.

In contrast, in the average OECD nation, over one-half (56%) of job growth was concentrated in 10% of the regions. The report used census data for Canada.

The report also showed that compared to the average predominantly rural region in other OECD countries, Canada's predominantly rural regions report the highest share of their population with "tertiary" (that is, some post-secondary) education.

In Canada, the proportion was nearly one-third (31%), which was the same share as predominantly rural regions in the United Kingdom.

In most countries, including Canada, job growth was fastest in predominantly urban regions, on average. However, in some nations, the fastest growing region was a predominantly rural region, and this was the case in Canada, Australia, Austria, Hungary, Ireland, Mexico, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

Globalization is eroding the influence of national borders. The competitiveness of sub-national regions is becoming more important in determining the well-being of citizens. The value of *OECD Regions at a Glance* is that the performance of a region can be compared to a similar region in any other OECD member country.

OECD Regions at a Glance was published on September 12, 2005 by the OECD and is available online (*http://new.sourceoecd.org*).

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Ray Bollman (306-379-4431; *RayD.Bollman@sasktel.net*), Agriculture Division. ■

Export and import price indexes

July 2005

Current- and fixed-weighted export and import price indexes (1997=100) on a balance of payments basis are now available. Price indexes are listed from January 1997 to July 2005 for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups (62 exports and 61 imports).

Current- and fixed-weighted US price indexes (1997=100) are also available on a customs basis. Price indexes are listed from January 1997 to July 2005. Included with the US commodity indexes are the 10 all-countries and US-only Standard International Trade Classification section indexes.

Indexes for the five commodity sections and the major commodity groups are also available now on a customs basis.

Available on CANSIM: tables 228-0001 to 228-0003 and 228-0033 to 228-0040.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 2201, 2202 and 2203.

The July issue of *Canadian International Merchandise Trade*, Vol. 59, no. 7 (65-001-XIB, $15/$151) 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 Anne Couillard (1-800-294-5583; 613-951-9647), International Trade Division. ■

Dairy statistics

July 2005 (preliminary)

Consumers purchased 245,500 kilolitres of milk and cream in July, down 4.3% from July 2004. Sales of milk totalled 221,400 kilolitres, down 4.8% compared with the same period a year earlier. Sales of cream totalled 24,100 kilolitres, up 1.3% from July 2004.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey numbers, including related surveys, 3430, 3431 and 3432.

The third quarter issue of *The Dairy Review* (23-001-XIB, $29/$96) will be available in November.

For more information, contact Anna Michalowska (613-951-2442 or toll free 1-800-465-1991; fax: 613-951-3868), Agriculture Division. ■

Steel wire and specified wire products

July 2005

Data on steel wire and specified wire products production are now available for July.

Available on CANSIM: table 303-0047.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2106.

The July issue of *Steel, Tubular Products and Steel Wire* (41-019-XIE, $6/$51) will soon be available.

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

Canadian Social Trends, Autumn 2005, no. 78
Catalogue number 11-008-XIE ($9/$29).

Canadian Social Trends, Autumn 2005, no. 78
Catalogue number 11-008-XPE ($12/$39).

Field Crop Reporting Series, Vol. 84, no. 6
Catalogue number 22-002-XIB ($12/$71).

Field Crop Reporting Series, Vol. 84, no. 6
Catalogue number 22-002-XPB ($17/$95).

Canadian International Merchandise Trade, July 2005, Vol. 59, no. 7
Catalogue number 65-001-XIB ($15/$151).

Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada: A Portrait of Early Settlement Experiences, April 2001 to March 2002
Catalogue number 89-614-XIE
(free).

Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada: A Portrait of Early Settlement Experiences, April 2001 to March 2002
Catalogue number 89-614-XPE ($35).

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or –XDE are electronic versions on diskette and -XCB or –XCE are electronic versions on compact disc.

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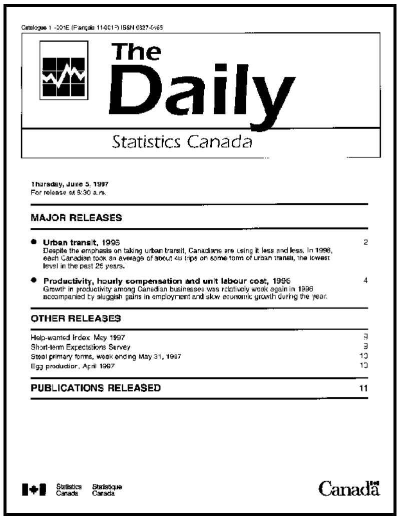
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The Daily

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

Help-wanted Index, May 1997	9
Short-term Expectations Survey	9
Steel primary forms, week ending May 31, 1997	10
Egg production, April 1997	10

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED 11

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