

The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, January 19, 2010

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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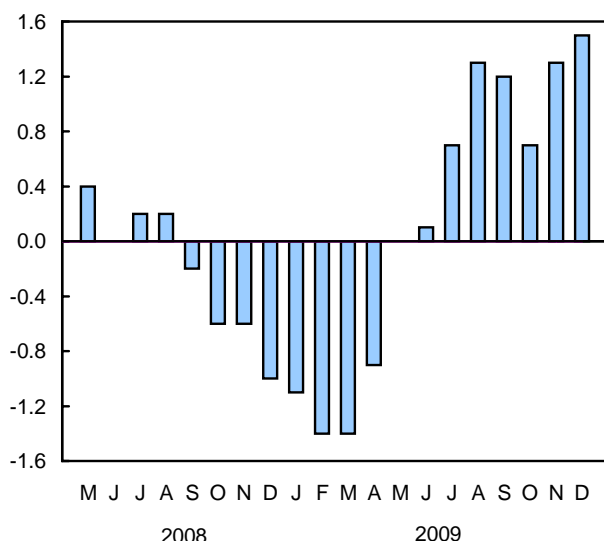
Leading indicators

December 2009

The composite leading index rose 1.5% in December, its seventh straight increase and matching February 1983 for the largest monthly advance since September 1958. For a second straight month, growth was widespread as none of the 10 components fell. The largest gains continued to originate in household spending and the stock market.

Composite leading indicator

smoothed % change



The housing index rose 3.0%, its eight consecutive increase. Existing home sales led the initial upturn,

which sent sales to a record high in December. The strength in sales was followed by a recovery in housing starts, which began slowly in July and continued to gather pace by year-end. Consumers also stepped up their purchases of durable goods. Services employment turned up in the last two months, after lagging the rebound earlier in the year, with gains for both personal and business services.

The leading indicator for the United States increased 0.8%, matching Canada with a seventh straight advance. In response to rising US demand, Canada's export volumes have risen 11% since their low in May 2009. The upturn in export demand was reflected in higher new orders for manufactured goods in Canada. As well, manufacturing sales volume rose for a second straight month. Together with steadily declining inventories, this raised the ratio of sales to stocks for the fifth month in a row.

Available on CANSIM: table 377-0003.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1601.

This release will be reprinted in the February 2010 issue of *Canadian Economic Observer*, Vol. 23, no. 2 (11-010-X, free). For more information on the economy, consult the *Canadian Economic Observer*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Philip Cross (613-951-9162; ceo@statcan.gc.ca), Current Economic Analysis Group.

□

Leading indicators

	July 2009	August 2009	September 2009	October 2009	November 2009	December 2009	Last month of data available % change
Composite leading indicator (1992=100)	215.5	218.4	221.0	222.6	225.6	229.0	1.5
Housing index (1992=100) ¹	108.6	112.9	118.2	123.8	127.5	131.3	3.0
Business and personal services employment ('000)	2,898	2,893	2,884	2,875	2,886	2,908	0.8
S&P/TSX stock price index (1975=1,000)	9,915	10,345	10,759	10,867	11,082	11,273	1.7
Money supply, M1 (\$ millions, 1992) ²	196,002	198,200	200,282	202,960	205,725	207,657	0.9
US Conference Board leading indicator (1992=100) ³	120.6	121.5	122.6	123.8	124.7	125.7	0.8
Manufacturing							
Average workweek (hours)	36.7	36.9	37.1	37.2	37.2	37.2	0.0
New orders, durables (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	16,943	18,473	17,909	17,001	18,222	19,697	8.1
Shipments/inventories of finished goods ⁴	1.55	1.56	1.59	1.60	1.62	1.64	0.02 ⁵
Retail trade							
Furniture and appliance sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	2,813	2,807	2,811	2,826	2,847	2,865	0.6
Other durable goods sales (\$ millions, 1992) ⁴	9,392	9,445	9,546	9,623	9,757	9,896	1.4
Unsmoothed composite leading indicator	219.0	225.0	225.1	226.0	233.1	235.9	1.2

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.

Civil aviation operating statistics

November 2009

Operational data on civil aviation are now available for November.

Available on CANSIM: table 401-0001.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5026.

A data table is also available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Summary tables*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; fax: 613-951-0009; transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca), Transportation Division. ■

Commercial and industrial machinery and equipment rental and leasing

2008

Data on the commercial and industrial machinery and equipment rental and leasing industry are now available for 2008.

Available on CANSIM: table 352-0009.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2441.

The publication *Service Bulletin: Commercial and Industrial Machinery and Equipment Rental and Leasing*, 2008 (63-244-X, free) will be available in April.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-801-3282; 613-951-4612; servicesind@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact David Binks (613-951-0521; david.binks@statcan.gc.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

Sound recording and music publishing

2008

Data on the sound recording and music publishing industry are now available for 2008.

Available on CANSIM: table 361-0005.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3115.

The publication *Service Bulletin: Sound Recording and Music Publishing*, 2008 (87F0008X, free) will be available in April.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-877-801-3282; 613-951-4612; servicesind@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Heather Archibald (613-951-0403; heather.archibald@statcan.gc.ca), Service Industries Division. ■

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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

Published each working day by the Communications and library Services Division, Statistics Canada, 10G, R.H. Coats Building, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

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