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Infomat

A Weekly Review

Friday, October 30, 1998

OVERVIEW

◆ **Exports and imports rebound strongly**

Exports and imports both rebounded strongly in August from the effects of the General Motors strike in June and July. The trade surplus jumped to its highest level since July 1997.

◆ **Prices of goods and services rising more slowly**

In September, consumers paid 0.7% more than they did in September 1997 for the goods and services that make up the Consumer Price Index. This increase marked the lowest annual inflation rate since December 1997.

◆ **Wholesalers end three-month slide**

Despite a steep decline in sales of farm machinery and equipment, wholesalers posted a sales gain in August. This halted a three-month slide in sales.

◆ **Retail sales edge down**

Following two volatile months, retail sales edged down slightly in August.

◆ **Leading indicator shows no growth again**

The leading indicator was unchanged in September for a second straight month, as the steep descent in the stock market that began in May came to an end.

◆ **Number of Canadians on EI declines**

In August, the number of Canadians receiving regular employment insurance benefits declined.

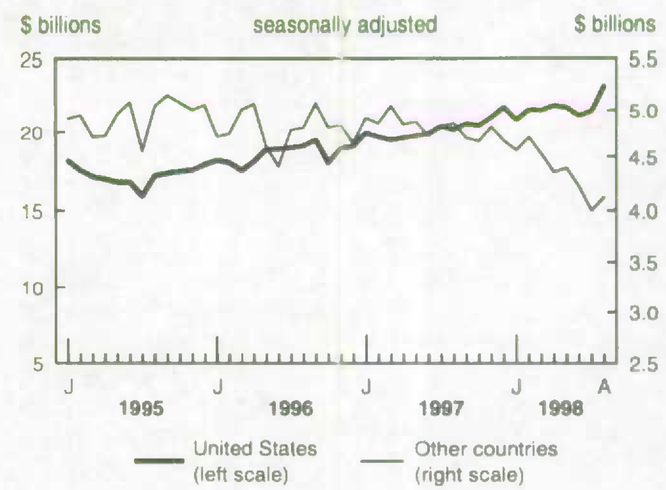
Exports and imports rebound strongly

Exports jumped 7.1% in August on the strength of automotive exports, as all other major commodity groups also advanced. Exports to the United States remained strong (+7.8%) while exports to most other countries felt the effects of a weaker global economy. Imports advanced 5.3% as most sectors posted gains. In particular, imports of machinery and equipment rose again (+1.6%), continuing the monthly gains seen since April. Imports of consumer goods also maintained their climb, ascending another 2.2%. The trade surplus jumped from a revised $1.6 billion in July to $2.2 billion in August — the first time since July 1997 that the surplus has been greater than $2 billion.

In August, exports of auto products (passenger cars, trucks, and motor vehicle parts) surged 31.2% after two months of substantial weakness. The $1.5 billion increase almost compensated for the approximate $2.0 billion decline between May and July.

But more than automotive products was behind the export strength in August. Discounting the effects of the GM strike, exports to the United States grew 7% in the eight months to August. This contrasts with exports to all other countries, which

Exports to the United States and other countries



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... Exports and imports rebound strongly

dropped 16% over the same period. More than 80% of all Canadian exports go to the United States. So the divergence between the performances of the U.S. economy and the Asian economies has resulted in a change in the nature of the goods being exported from Canada. Most goods exported to the United States are finished products such as cars, machinery and equipment and consumer goods. Goods exported outside of North America tend to be resource-intensive goods (including agricultural products, energy products, forestry products and industrial goods). Until recently, exports of resource-intensive goods represented about half of all exports. However, this has been changing. Since mid-1997, finished products have been making up a greater share of Canada's exports.

Exports of machinery and equipment, which have been climbing steadily over the last year, crept up another 0.3% in August. Office machines and equipment, telecommunications equipment, and industrial machinery are the commodities that have fuelled much of this growth.

Forestry product exports rose 3.5% in August due to sharp increases in prices for softwood lumber and newsprint. Removing the effect of the increase in price (often referred to as constant dollar exports) exports of forestry products actually fell by 0.2% in August. Most of the forestry sector has been hurt by Asia's troubles and by softwood lumber quotas. An exception is "other wood fabricated material", exports of which have grown 65% since January 1997, due mostly to oriented strandboard and waferboard.

Imports of auto products spiked up 23.3% in August, returning to normal levels following the GM strike. The gains were equally split between passenger cars and trucks, with the biggest in auto parts. The end of the strike also affected imports of other commodity groups that include goods used intensively by the auto sector — such as industrial goods and materials (in particular fabricated steel products) and consumer goods (car radios). Machinery and equipment imports benefited from a few large one-time shipments that entered the country in August. Imports of machinery and equipment have now increased for four consecutive months and are nearing the stellar growth rates posted in 1997. Imports of consumer goods rose again in August after posting gains in each of the previous four months. August's increase was mainly due to pharmaceutical products.

Note to readers

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

Demand for steel boosted imports of coal and related products by 19.8%. Two factors are driving the rising trend in these imports (+43% since July 1997). First, the closure of nuclear power stations in Ontario has forced a shift to other ways of producing electricity. Second, steel consumption in Canada continues to remain near historic highs, so that many steel producers are importing coal to meet the demand.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3618, 3619, 3651, 3685-3713, 3718-3720, 3887-3913, 8430-8435 and 8438-8447.

*The August 1998 issue of **Canadian international merchandise trade** (65-001-XPB, $19/$188) is now available. The publication will include tables by commodity and country on a customs basis. Current account data (which incorporate merchandise trade statistics, services transactions, investment income and transfers) are available quarterly in **Canada's balance of international payments** (67-001-XPB, $38/$124). For further information, contact Jocelyne Elibani (613-951-9647 or 1-800-294-5583), International Trade Division. Also see "Current trends" on page 7.*

Prices of goods and services rising more slowly

In September, consumers paid 0.7% more than they did in September 1997 for the goods and services that make up the Consumer Price Index (CPI). This increase marked the lowest annual inflation rate since December 1997 (+0.7%). Discounting the February 1994-to-January 1995 period, when the annual rates derived from the CPI were artificially low due to reductions in tobacco taxes, the last time the annual inflation rate was lower was in May 1962 (+0.5%).

The CPI's modest annual increase in September was due primarily to moderate advances in fresh fruit prices and in traveller accommodation rates. Lower gasoline and computer prices and lower electricity rates dampened the advance in the all-items index. The commodities that exhibited notable price increases compared with September 1997 included piped gas, cigarettes, travel tours and university tuition fees. The annual increase in tuition fees has exceeded the annual average inflation rate since 1983.

From August to September, consumers paid 0.2% less for the CPI's basket of goods and services. It was the largest monthly price decline this year and the fifth in the last 12 months. Prices fell compared with August for fresh fruits and vegetables, electricity, traveller accommodation, computers and air transportation.

Consumer Price Index, September 1998
% change from previous year, not seasonally adjusted

	All-items	Food	Shelter	Transportation	Energy
Canada	**0.7**	**1.3**	**0.5**	**-1.9**	**-6.7**
Newfoundland	-1.0	0.5	-6.0	-1.3	-13.3
Prince Edward Island	-0.8	0.5	-3.3	-3.7	-11.6
Nova Scotia	-0.7	1.6	-4.4	-2.5	-14.5
New Brunswick	-0.3	2.0	-0.8	-3.9	-9.4
Quebec	1.1	2.3	1.3	-2.4	-6.8
Ontario	0.8	1.0	1.0	-1.4	-5.5
Manitoba	1.5	1.5	2.3	-0.2	0.3
Saskatchewan	1.5	0.6	2.0	0.2	-3.1
Alberta	1.1	1.6	1.4	-1.2	-6.8
British Columbia	0.0	1.2	-1.2	-2.8	-9.8
Whitehorse	0.8	1.1	0.1	1.3	-1.7
Yellowknife	-0.7	2.0	-0.9	0.6	-4.0

Prices of fresh vegetables tumbled 11.0% between August and September because local harvests brought in an abundant supply. Prices of fresh fruit fell 5.1%, consistent with the price declines usually reported at this time of year. Even with this decline,

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... Prices of goods and services rising more slowly

prices of fresh fruit were still 6.1% higher than in September 1997. Electricity rates decreased 2.8% in September, due mainly to one-time rebates given to customers in Newfoundland, Nova Scotia and Alberta. A 5.1% seasonal decline in the cost of traveller accommodation in September was consistent with the end of the peak tourist season. The price of air travel fell 3.4% from August to September, but was up 4.4% compared with September 1997; a smaller annual increase was last posted in February 1996.

Between August and September, the price of computer equipment and supplies deflated by 7.7%. On average, computers cost 24.0% less than they did a year earlier. Several factors are responsible for this sharp decline. As demand for personal computers slowed, companies reduced prices to preserve market share and to lower inventories in anticipation of receipt of new stock. As well, lower prices for computer chips and other computer components imported from Asia reflect the weakness of Asian currencies.

A 7.8% increase in university tuition fees was the major factor pulling against the CPI's overall decline between August and September. Another factor was furniture prices, which rose 3.2%. This bigger-than-usual price increase was mainly due to the widespread return to regular prices after promotional sales.

Among the provinces, Newfoundlanders benefited from the largest price decline on an annual basis (-1.0%), whereas Manitobans and Saskatchewanians experienced the highest annual increase in prices (+1.5% in both provinces). Between August and September, consumers in Ontario and Saskatchewan faced the highest price increases (+0.1%), while consumers in the other provinces enjoyed price declines ranging from 0.1% in Prince Edward Island and Manitoba to 1.1% in Nova Scotia.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9940-9970.

The September 1998 issue of ***The Consumer Price Index*** *(62-001-XPB, $11/$103) is now available. For further information, contact the information officer (613-951-9606; fax: 613- 951-1539; infounit@statcan.ca), Prices Division. Also see "Current trends" on page 7.*

Wholesalers end three-month slide

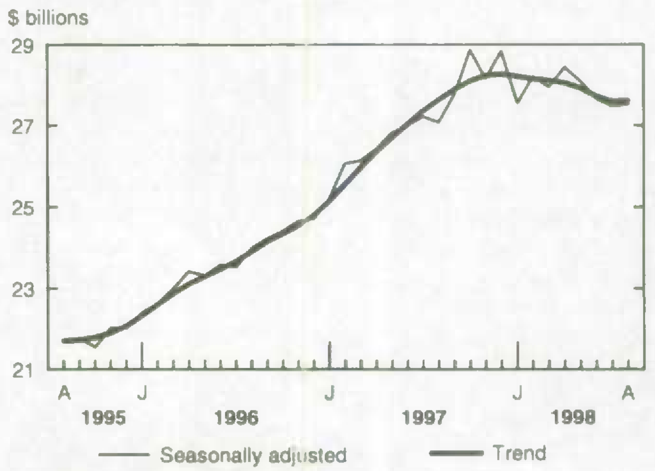
Despite a steep decline in the sales of farm machinery and equipment in August, wholesalers increased sales by 0.2% to $27.5 billion. This halted a three-month slide in sales, as the strike at General Motors in the United States was resolved, the Ontario construction industry strike ended, and sales of goods attributed to the opening of the school year increased. If not for the heavy decline posted by the farm machinery and equipment trade group, wholesalers in general would have reported a 0.8% increase in sales. Sales have been weakening since the end of 1997 after more than two years of increases.

Sales were up in 7 of the 11 trade groups, particularly motor vehicles, parts and accessories (+3.9%) and lumber and building materials (+2.9%). The end of the GM strike and strong sales in Ontario and Quebec helped to boost total sales of motor vehicles, parts and accessories by close to 4% in August. The start of the new school year and the resulting strong sales of truck and bus products added to the increase. Sales of motor vehicles, parts and accessories have been declining since the end of 1997. As for lumber and building materials, the end of strikes in the construction industry in Ontario may have helped sales in August. Despite the Asian crisis, sales of lumber and building materials have been spurred by low interest rates and by growth in residential building permits.

August was a particularly poor month for sales of farm machinery and equipment as sales tumbled 18.1%. Following strong growth in July, it was the group's largest percentage decline in sales since February 1996. Reasons behind this correction include an earlier-than-normal harvest on the Prairies and in Ontario, which advanced sales to July that would normally have been made in August. In general, wholesale sales of farm machinery and equipment have remained more or less stagnant since mid-1997.

In Saskatchewan, wholesale sales dropped 13% in August. The Asian crisis, poor yields of spring wheat, and the dominant

Wholesale sales



place of primary industries in the province may have been factors that influenced the weaker sales.

Inventories held by wholesalers levelled off in August and were relatively unchanged from July at roughly $40 billion. This levelling off followed seven months of increases. Computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery showed the largest decrease in inventories (-4.6%) following a 12.2% gain in July. The increased sales and the levelling off of inventories narrowed the inventories-to-sales ratio from 1.46 in July to 1.45 in August. Prior to August, the ratio had generally been increasing since the latter part of 1997.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 59, 61 and 648-649.

The August 1998 issue of ***Wholesale trade*** *(63-008-XIB, $14/$140) is now posted on the Internet. For further information, contact Alexander Hays (613-951-3552; haysale@statcan.ca). To obtain more data or general information, contact the Client Services Unit (613-951-7384), Distributive Trades Division.*

Retail sales edge down

Retail sales edged down a slight 0.2% in August to $20.7 billion, as consumers were hit by waves of worrisome economic news. This followed two months of volatile sales (+1.5% in July, -1.7% in June). Sales in August were 4.0% higher than in August 1997. In each of the last three months, the year-over-year percentage growth in sales has been the lowest recorded since September 1996. The weakness lately has been due to sluggish sales in both general merchandise and clothing stores. With rising sales since the spring of 1996, retailers enjoyed a period of strong growth between the fall of 1996 and the summer of 1997.

In August, the low Canadian dollar brought a record number of American travellers to Canada. Gasoline service stations recorded higher sales volumes, but lower petroleum prices held back revenues. August was a good month for motor and recreational vehicle dealers (+1.8%). However, the number of new vehicles they sold fell by 1,2%. The motor and recreational vehicle dealer trade group includes vendors of used cars, motorcycles, boats and motor homes. In addition, a significant share of new car dealers' sales includes pre-owned vehicles, parts, repair and maintenance services. Retailers in the auto sector have generally been posting smaller sales gains since the spring of 1997. Even so, if sales by motor and recreational vehicle dealers were excluded, total retail sales would have fallen 0.9% in August.

Sales by drugstores, clothing stores and "stores not elsewhere classified" remained virtually unchanged in August, while retailers in all other sectors posted sales declines. General merchandise stores posted the largest sales decline (-1.8%). August's department store sales were 0.9% higher than in August 1997 — the lowest year-over-year sales growth since June 1996. Food stores showed August's second largest decline (-1.1%). Lower prices of fresh vegetables contributed as ideal growing conditions resulted in an abundance of local crops. Still, sales by food stores have generally been increasing since the spring of 1996. After three consecutive months of increases, consumers reduced their spending in furniture stores (-0.7%). This decline came from diminishing sales in household furniture and appliance stores (-1.3%) — the first decline in four months. Furniture stores have shown steady sales growth since the spring of 1996.

Retail and wholesale trade, August 1998
Seasonally adjusted

	Retail sales		Wholesale sales	
	$ millions	% change, previous month	$ millions	% change, previous month
Canada	**20,705**	**-0.2**	**27,521**	**0.2**
Newfoundland	310	-2.1	191	0.2
Prince Edward Island	87	-1.5	50	-1.9
Nova Scotia	636	-0.3	493	4.0
New Brunswick	494	-1.1	347	1.8
Quebec	4,753	-0.3	5,620	0.4
Ontario	7,861	0.6	13,245	1.5
Manitoba	734	0.1	859	-7.3
Saskatchewan	637	0.1	863	-13.1
Alberta	2,369	-0.5	2,720	-0.5
British Columbia	2,756	-1.4	3,108	0.6
Yukon	27	1.8	11	2.7
Northwest Territories	42	-1.5	14	-3.5

Ontario's retailers enjoyed 0.6% sales growth in August, the largest increase among the provinces. The end of the labour disputes in the auto and construction industries may have contributed to this increase, as sales were 7.6% higher than in August 1997. Retail sales in Ontario have generally been rising since the summer of 1996. Retailers in the other provinces posted either declining or stagnant sales. Consumers in Newfoundland (-2.1%), Prince Edward Island (-1.5%) and British Columbia (-1.4%) showed the largest reductions in spending.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2299, 2398-2417 and 2420.

*The August 1998 issue of **Retail trade** (63-005-XPB, $21/$206) will be available shortly. For further analytical information, contact Paul Gratton (613-951-3541; gratpau@statcan.ca). For more data or general information, contact Client Services (613-951-3549; logener@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division.*

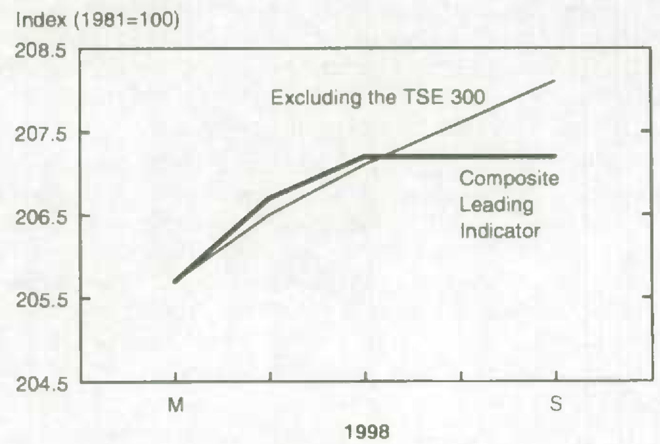
Leading indicator shows no growth again

The leading indicator was unchanged in September for a second straight month, as the stock market's steep descent that began in May came to an end. Half of the Composite Index's 10 components were up in September — the same as in August and one more than in July, when strike effects were intensifying. The end of strikes in the auto industry also contributed to September's growth in the U.S. leading indicator.

Conditions in the financial markets improved in September, as the stock market stabilized. Moreover, in October the stock market regained some of the ground lost since May. Falling stock prices were the major factor behind the slowdown in the Composite Index over the summer.

Household demand firmed, mirroring the boost to incomes as several strikes were settled and employment continued to tick upward. The housing index was steady after two monthly declines.

Composite Index



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... Leading indicator shows no growth again

And spending on durable goods also turned for the better. Meanwhile, services employment accelerated thanks to demand for personal services, which snapped out of a yearlong slowdown.

However, manufacturers did not follow the enthusiasm shown by consumers. New orders remained on a downward trend due to widespread weakness outside of capital goods. The slack in demand meant that the ratio of shipments to inventories of finished goods rapidly dropped to its lowest level in two years. Subsequently, manufacturing employment in September fell sharply for a third straight month.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 191.

*For further information about the economy, consult the October 1998 issue of **Canadian economic observer** (11-010-XPB, $23/$227). For further information, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Economic Analysis Group. See also "Current Trends" on page 7.*

Number of Canadians on EI declines

An estimated 565,060 Canadians received regular employment insurance (EI) benefits in August, a 2.7% drop from July. The number of people receiving EI payments declined in seven provinces and in the Yukon. More beneficiaries were reported in Newfoundland (+10.1%) and in the Northwest Territories (+0.8%), whereas the number of beneficiaries remained unchanged in Manitoba and British Columbia. The amount paid out as regular benefits grew 10.2% in August to $720.0 million.

Statistics on jobless claims (applications for EI benefits) are not available for August because the claimant reporting procedures are changing at the provincial level. These data will be available in the near future once the changes are implemented.

The discrepancy between the estimated number of regular beneficiaries and regular payments series can be explained in part by differences in their reference periods. The number of beneficiaries is a measure of all persons who received employment insurance benefits for the week containing the 15th day of the month. Regular benefit payments is the total of all monies received by individuals for the entire month.

EI beneficiaries receiving regular benefits, August 1998
Seasonally adjusted

	Beneficiaries	% change, previous month	% change, previous year
Canada	**565,060**	**-2.7**	**-2.6**
Newfoundland	36,510	10.1	12.5
Prince Edward Island	9,300	-1.4	2.3
Nova Scotia	31,120	-0.2	1.0
New Brunswick	38,010	-1.1	4.3
Quebec	194,150	-5.5	-6.1
Ontario	124,600	-4.6	-12.9
Manitoba	13,540	0.0	-3.9
Saskatchewan	11,510	-14.4	8.6
Alberta	31,070	-0.2	8.2
British Columbia	70,100	0.0	4.3
Yukon	1,290	-5.0	-0.5
Northwest Territories	1,190	0.8	8.3

Available on CANSIM: matrices 26 (series 1.6), 5702-5717 and 5735-5736.

For further information, contact Gilles Groleau (613-951-4090; fax: 613-951-4087; labour@statcan.ca), Labour Division.

New from Statistics Canada

Canadian economic observer
October 1998

The October issue of Statistics Canada's flagship publication for economic statistics, *Canadian economic observer*, analyzes the current economic conditions, summarizes the major economic events that occurred in September and presents a feature article titled "Labour force participation in the 1990s".

A separate statistical summary contains a wide range of tables and graphs on the principal economic indicators for Canada, the provinces and the major industrial nations.

*The October 1998 issue of **Canadian economic observer** (11-010-XPB, $23/$227) is now available. For further information, contact Cyndi Bloskie (613-951-3634; ceo@statcan.ca), Current Economic Analysis Group.*

Health statistics: Catalogue of products and services

Health statistics: Catalogue of products and services is a comprehensive guide to the health information available from Statistics Canada. The products, services and surveys listed in this catalogue cover broad subject areas such as vital statistics, health status, health determinants and health care.

***Health statistics: Catalogue of products and services** (82F0058XIE, free) is now available on the Internet at www.statcan.ca. The menu path is "Products and services" and then "Downloadable publications (free)". For further information, contact Paula Woollam (613-951-0879; woolpau@statcan.ca), Health Statistics Division.*

In depth - A new link at *www.statcan.ca*

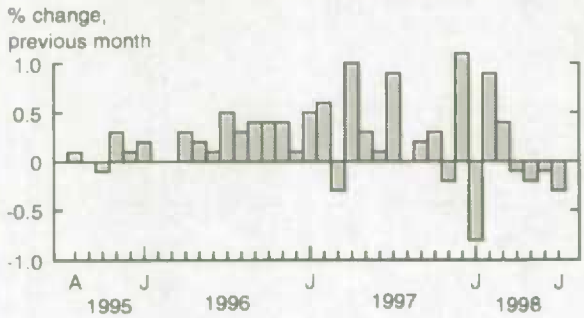
Readers of Statistics Canada's major analytical periodicals now have access to a selection of published articles and abstracts — such publications as *Perspectives on labour and income*, *Canadian social trends*, *Education quarterly review*, *Health reports*, *Juristat* and *Services indicators* — thanks to a new link on Statistics Canada Internet site called "In depth".

This new electronic venue offers visitors a downloadable version of either an article or an abstract from the latest issue of each publication. The site will be updated as new issues of each publication are released. Some publications will eventually make online versions of back issues available.

*Access to the new **"In depth"** link is now available at www.statcan.ca. For further information, contact Henry Pold (613-951-4608; poldhen@statcan.ca), Labour and Household Survey Analysis Division.*

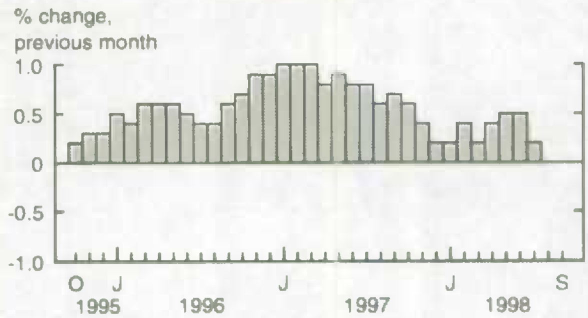
Current trends

Gross domestic product



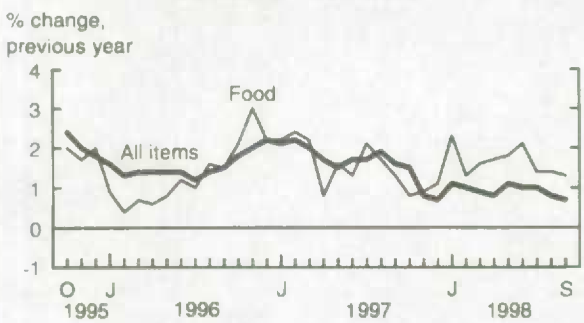
Economic activity edged down for a fourth consecutive month in July, falling by 0.3%.

Composite Index



In September, the leading indicator continued to show no growth for a second straight month.

Consumer Price Index



Consumers paid 0.7% more for goods and services in September 1998 than they did a year earlier. Food prices rose 1.3%.

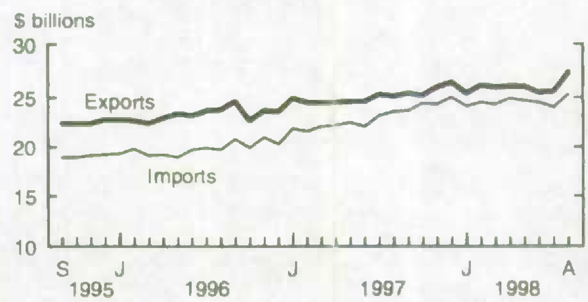
Unemployment rate

In September, the unemployment rate was unchanged at 8.3%.

Manufacturing

Manufacturers' shipments rebounded a sharp 7.6% in August to $37.4 billion. The level of unfilled orders increased 3.0% to $47.1 billion.

Merchandise trade



In August, the value of merchandise exports climbed 7.1% from July to $27.4 billion. Imports surged 5.3% to $25.3 billion.

Note: *All series are seasonally adjusted except the Consumer Price Index.*

Latest monthly statistics

	Period	Level	Change, previous period	Change, previous year
GENERAL				
Gross domestic product ($ billion, 1992)	July	705.1	– 0.3%	1.1%
Composite Index (1981=100)	September*	207.2	0.0%	3.8%
Operating profits of enterprises ($ billion)	Q2 1998	25.7	– 4.6%	– 4.3%
Capacity utilization (%)	Q2 1998	85.6	– 0.1†	1.3†
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail trade ($ billion)	August*	20.7	– 0.2%	4.0%
New motor vehicle sales (thousand of units)	August	120.1	– 1.2%	– 0.6%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	September	14.38	0.5%	2.5%
Unemployment rate (%)	September	8.3	0.0†	– 0.7†
Participation rate (%)	September	65.2	0.3†	0.3†
Labour income ($ billion)	June	38.2	– 0.2%	3.1%
Average weekly earnings ($)	August*	607.18	0.2%	1.5%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise exports ($ billion)	August	27.4	7.1%	9.3%
Merchandise imports ($ billion)	August	25.3	5.3%	7.1%
Merchandise trade balance (all figures in $ billion)	August	2.1	0.5	0.6
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments ($ billion)	August	37.4	7.6%	2.9%
New orders ($ billion)	August	38.8	8.2%	5.3%
Unfilled orders ($ billion)	August	47.1	3.0%	20.0%
Inventory/shipments ratio	August	1.34	– 0.08	0.05
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1992=100)	September	108.6	– 0.2%	0.7%
Industrial Product Price Index (1992=100)	September*	119.4	– 0.6%	– 0.3%
Raw Materials Price Index (1992=100)	September*	108.1	1.6%	– 13.0%
New Housing Price Index (1992=100)	August	100.2	0.0%	1.0%

***Note:** All series are seasonally adjusted with the exception of the price indexes.*
* *new this week*
† *percentage point*

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Publications released from October 22 to 28, 1998

Division/Title of publication	Period	Catalogue number	Price: Issue/Subscription Canada (C$)	Outside Canada (US$)
AGRICULTURE				
Food consumption in Canada, Part II	1996			
Internet		32-230-XIB	25	25
Paper		32-230-XPB	33	33
CANADIAN CENTRE FOR JUSTICE STATISTICS				
Juristat: Homicide in Canada, Vol. 18, no. 12	1997			
Internet		85-002-XIE	8/70	8/70
Paper		85-002-XPE	10/93	10/93
CURRENT ECONOMIC ANALYSIS				
Canadian economic observer	October 1998	11-010-XPB	23/227	23/227
DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES				
Retail trade	April 1998	63-005-XPB	21/206	21/206
HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS				
Characteristics of dual-earner families	1996	13-215-XIB	21	21
INCOME STATISTICS				
Family food expenditure in Canada	1996	62-554-XPB	52	52
INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION AND FINANCE				
CALURA, Part I: Corporations	1996	61-220-XPB	40	40
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Canadian international merchandise trade	August 1998			
Internet		65-001-XIB	14/141	14/141
Paper		65-001-XPB	19/188	19/188
MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION AND ENERGY				
Construction type plywood	June 1998	35-001-XPB	7/62	7/62
Logging industry	1995	25-201-XPB	34	34
Mineral wool including fibrous glass insulation	September 1998	44-004-XPB	7/62	7/62
Monthly Survey of Manufacturing	August 1998	31-001-XPB	20/196	20/196
Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard	August 1998	36-003-XPB	7/62	7/62
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY REDESIGN PROJECT				
Telephone statistics	August 1998	56-002-XIB	8/70	8/70

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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 **Business Conditions Survey: Manufacturing industries**, October 1998	**3** **Building permits**, September 1998	**4**	**5** **Help-wanted Index**, October 1998	**6** **Labour Force Survey**, October 1998
9	**10** **New Housing Price Index**, September 1998	**11**	**12**	**13**
16 **New motor vehicle sales**, September 1998	**17** **Monthly Survey of Manufacturing**, September 1998 **Travel between Canada and other countries**, September 1998	**18** **Canadian international merchandise trade**, September 1998	**19** **Consumer Price Index**, October 1998 **Wholesale trade**, September 1998	**20** **Retail Trade**, September 1998 **Financial statistics for enterprises**, Third quarter 1998 **Release dates**, 1999
23 **Homeowner Repair and Renovations Survey**, 1996	**24** **Canada's international transactions in securities**, September 1998 **Employment insurance**, September 1998	**25** **Industrial Product Price Index**, October 1998 **Raw Materials Price Index**, October 1998 **Composite Index**, October 1998	**26** **Farm cash receipts**, Third quarter 1998 **Net farm income**, 1997 (revised)	**27** **International travel account**, Third quarter 1998 **Characteristics of international travellers**, Second quarter 1998 **Employment, earnings and hours**, September 1998
30 **National economic and financial accounts**, Third quarter 1998 **Balance of international payments**, Third quarter 1998 **Real GDP at factor cost by industry**, September 1998				

Note: *Release dates for Canadian international merchandise trade, the Consumer Price Index and the Labour Force Survey are fixed; dates for other releases may change.*