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Infomat

A Weekly Review

Friday, July 2, 1999

OVERVIEW

◆ **U.S. investors' demand for Canadian stocks heats up**

In April, strong Canadian stock prices for a second consecutive month enticed U.S. investors to buy Canadian stocks. Meanwhile, Canadian investors' demand for foreign securities cooled.

◆ **Composite index continues to show growth**

In May, the leading indicator grew 0.4%. Export-oriented industries and household demand continued to be the main pillars of growth.

◆ **Large retailers keep sales growing**

In March, the large retailers' sales grew from a year earlier by 7.0%. All their major product lines showed year-over year sales growth greater than 3.8%.

◆ **Small setback in retail sales**

Retail sales edged down in April by 0.4%. Sales fell in all trade groups except general merchandise stores. April's sales decline followed an increase in March.

◆ **Wholesale sales unchanged**

Wholesale sales growth paused in April, remaining virtually unchanged from March at $29.3 billion. Sales rose in 6 of the 11 trade groups, but their strength was only sufficient to offset the declines.

◆ **Number of EI recipients declines again**

In April, the number of Canadians receiving employment insurance benefits declined 1.6%—the eighth monthly decline in nine months.

◆ **Good year for private radio broadcasters**

In 1998, revenues of the radio and television broadcasting industry climbed 5.1%. Private radio broadcasters realised their best financial performance in years.

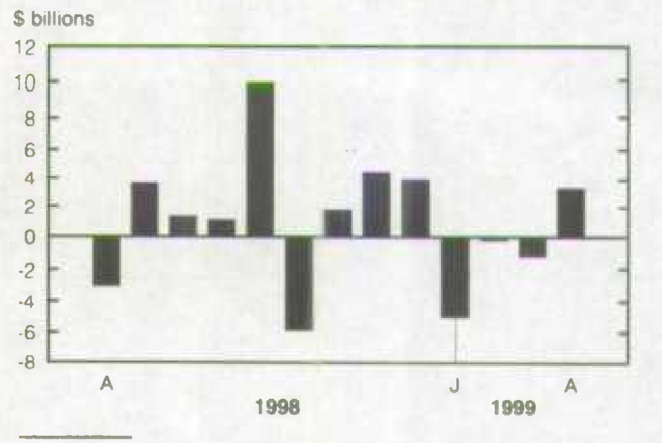
U.S. investors' demand for Canadian stocks heats up

In April, strong Canadian stock prices for a second consecutive month enticed U.S. investors to buy Canadian stocks. Americans accounted for all of the $2.6 billion purchased in April. Their buying activity was spread across a wide group of industries, led by investment in the Canadian banking sector. It is notable that U.S. investors have accounted for all of the foreign demand for Canadian equities in 1999. In fact, during the first four months of this year, American investors bought $4.1 billion worth of Canadian equities. By contrast, European and Asian investors sold $2.2 billion.

The bond markets saw less interest from foreign investors in April. Foreign investment in Canadian bonds netted out at a modest $0.8 billion. The activity in April was concentrated in outstanding corporate bonds, as new issues of Canadian bonds in foreign markets dipped to their lowest level in more than a year.

Foreign investors reduced their holdings of Canadian money market instruments in April, a continuation of the overall pattern of disinvestment seen so far in 1999. The decline in April was entirely in federal treasury bills. That contrasts with the prior

Foreign investment in Canadian securities[1]



[1] *Includes stocks, bonds and money market paper.*

(continued on page 2)

... U.S. investors' demand for Canadian stocks heats up

three months, when the focus was other government and corporate short-term paper. Short-term interest rates in both Canada and the United States have remained steady from January to April, with the differential continuing to favour investment in Canada by a narrow margin.

Overall, foreign investors in April acquired $3.3 billion (net) of Canadian securities, mostly stocks. This marked their first monthly investment in 1999.

Meanwhile, Canadian investors' demand for foreign securities cooled in April. Before selling a small amount in April, Canadian investors bought $14 billion worth of foreign securities between November 1998 and March 1999. Breaking down the transactions in April, Canadian investors sold a modest $0.7 billion of foreign bonds. That was only partly offset by their buying of a small amount of foreign stocks. In both January and March, Canadians showed a strong demand for foreign securities, mainly stocks.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2328-2330, 2378-2380 and 4195.

Note to readers

In April, the Canada-U.S. interest-rate differential on short-term government instruments favoured investment in Canada, but it declined marginally to about 25 basis points. The differential on long-term government instruments favoured investment in the United States (by 15 to 20 basis points) for a third consecutive month.

Canadian stock prices (TSE 300 composite index) gained a robust 6.3% in April, outperforming U.S. stock prices (+3.8%, Standard & Poor's 500 index) for a second month in a row. Unlike recent years, Canadian stock prices have kept pace with their U.S. counterparts in this year.

The dollar jumped by just over two cents in April to close the month at 68.63 U.S. cents. This was its highest close against the U.S. dollar since May 1998.

The April 1999 issue of ***Canada's international transactions in securities*** *(67-002-XPB, $18/$176) presents the full report. For further information, contact Don Granger (613-951-1864), Balance of Payments and Financial Flows Division.*

Composite index continues to show growth

In May, the composite leading indicator grew 0.4%, slightly below the revised 0.6% gain in April but in line with the 0.5% average posted so far this year. Exports and household demand continued to be the main pillars of growth, whereas business spending was the major brake on the overall index.

New orders posted an eighth straight increase—their longest advance since 1997. Export-oriented industries, which have dominated growth since the turn of the year, were reinforced by acceleration in the consumer-related sector. In contrast, following large gains last year, the business investment industries have turned downward. They also led the second drop in three months in the average workweek. Meanwhile, the ratio of shipments to inventories of finished goods rose for a fifth consecutive month because firms continued to keep a tight grip on those inventories. Elsewhere, restraint by firms also led to the first dip in employment in two years.

Households stepped up their outlays despite weak income growth. With interest rates low, spending on durable goods accelerated to 1% from a standstill five months earlier. The housing index also picked up speed for a third consecutive month, rising to 1.6%, reversing the prior two years' downtrend. Sales of existing homes led this growth.

In the United States, their leading indicator continued to improve, which is an encouraging sign that Canadian exports may recover from their drop in April.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 191.

For further information, the June 1999 issue of ***Canadian economic observer*** *(11-010-XPB, $23/$227) is now available. For further information, contact Francine Roy (613-951-3627), Current Economic Analysis Group. See also "Current trends" on page 7.*

Large retailers keep sales growing

In March, the large retailers' sales reached $5.2 billion, growing from a year earlier by 7.0% (+$342 million). Over the same period, total retail sales excluding motor and recreational vehicle dealers advanced 5.5%. In February, the large retailers' sales increased 5.8%, compared with a 2.9% gain for total retail sales excluding vehicle dealers. (All data are unadjusted for seasonality.)

All the major product lines of the large retailers posted year-over-year sales growth in March greater than 3.8%. Health and personal care products had the highest growth rate in sales (+17.9%). Prescription and over-the-counter drugs turned in a substantial increase in year-over-year sales (+28.9%). In fact, drugs accounted for almost two-thirds of the entire product line's sales gain. Sales of personal care products (cosmetics and other toiletries) advanced 10.6%.

The sporting and leisure goods product line was the large retailers' next best grower in March (+12.2%). Sporting goods accounted for 33% of the category's sales. All categories of sporting goods showed year-over-year sales growth (+14.5%). Within leisure goods, notable sales increases were seen for toys (+15.9%), crafts and artist supplies (+12.8%), and books, newspapers and periodicals (+10.2%).

Clothing, footwear and accessories had the third highest year-over-year sales increase (+6.9%). This category accounted for almost 20% of all the goods sold by the large retailers in March. Significant year-over-year sales gains were made in girl's clothing and accessories (+18.4%), infant's and children's clothing and accessories (+11.2%) and boy's clothing and accessories (+9.1%).

To order data, or for general information, contact Client Services (1 877 421-3067; retailinfo@statcan.ca). For further analytical information, contact Veronica Utovac (613-951-0669), Distributive Trades Division.

Sales for the group of large retailers
Not seasonally adjusted

	March 1998	March 1999	March 1998 to March 1999
	$ billions		% change
Commodities, total	**4,897**	**5,239**	**7.0**
Food and beverages	1,889	2,005	6.1
Health and personal care products	942	1,008	6.9
Housewares	646	672	4.0
Clothing, footwear and accessories	352	415	17.9
Home furnishings and electronics	222	237	6.9
Hardware and lawn and garden products	189	212	12.2
Sporting and leisure goods	163	169	3.8
All other goods and services	495	522	5.5

Small setback in retail sales

Retailers saw sales edge down 0.4% in April to $21.2 billion. April's sales decline followed an increase in March of 1.0%. Despite the dip in April, retail sales have been on the rise since the fall of 1998 and were 2.7% higher this April than they were in April 1998. By comparison, the year-over-year sales increase was above 4.0% in each of the first three months of 1999. The smaller year-over-year gain in April was partly attributable to strong sales in April 1998.

General merchandise was the only trade group to post a sales increase in April (+0.2%), all the others saw sales decrease. The most significant declines were in furniture (-2.8%), retail stores classified as "other" (-1.2%) and drugstores (-1.1%).

In the furniture trade group, most of the drop in sales can be attributed to stores selling appliances and electronic goods, as April marked the group's largest monthly sales decline in three years. April's significant decrease combined with the weaker sales in the February and March reversed the uptrend in furniture store sales that started three years earlier. As for the "other" category of retail stores, April's decline in sales almost completely offset the 1.4% increase in March. (The "other" category includes liquor stores, sporting goods stores, hardware stores and bookstores.) Meanwhile, the sales retreat for drugstores followed advances during the previous three months.

Sales for the automotive trade group remained essentially unchanged in April (-0.1%). Lower sales of motor and recreational vehicle dealers (-1.3%) were offset by significantly higher sales

Note to readers

Starting with the April data, retail sales figures are available separately for Nunavut and the remaining part of the Northwest Territories. In order to provide a complete data series for 1999, estimates have also been generated for January, February and March.

Retail and wholesale trade, April 1999
Seasonally adjusted

	Retail sales		Wholesale sales	
	$ millions	% change, previous month	$ millions	% change, previous month
Canada	**21,207**	**-0.4**	**29,335**	**0.0**
Newfoundland	335	-4.6	20	-1.3
Prince Edward Island	90	-2.7	48	-2.6
Nova Scotia	631	-4.0	627	11.5
New Brunswick	518	-0.8	358	-0.5
Quebec	4,995	-0.6	6,075	0.3
Ontario	8,055	-0.2	14,257	-1.0
Manitoba	748	-0.8	1,135	7.4
Saskatchewan	635	1.0	863	2.6
Alberta	2,341	-1.2	2,655	0.0
British Columbia	2,788	1.3	3,088	-1.0
Yukon	27	2.2	10	-14.1
Northwest Territories	28	-10.4	14	11.5
Nunavut	15	0.0	3	-20.6

(continued on page 4)

... Small setback in retail sales

at gasoline service stations (+5.0%), which continued to be boosted by higher gasoline prices. April marked the first monthly decline in sales for motor vehicle dealers since October 1998. In food stores, sales declined 0.3%, after rising in March. Since the fall of 1998, food store sales have been rising, but this progression has been much weaker than in 1997 and in most of 1996. After three months of strong increases, clothing store sales were relatively unchanged in April (-0.1%). Slackening sales in men's and women's clothing stores offset rising sales in other clothing stores and in shoe stores.

In April, retail sales advanced only in British Columbia and Saskatchewan. In British Columbia, sales were lifted by the automotive and general merchandise trade groups. Except for a decline this February, retail sales in the province have been rising every month since October 1998. In Saskatchewan, the automotive group led retail sales higher in both March and April. Retail sales in Saskatchewan have remained essentially flat since the start of 1998.

In Atlantic Canada, sales fell in all the provinces and in all the retail trade groups. For their part, retailers in Alberta, Manitoba, Quebec and Ontario reported lower sales in most sectors in April. This followed sales advances in March.

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

*The April 1999 issue of **Retail trade** (paper: 63-005-XPB, $21/$206; Internet at www.statcan.ca: 63-005-XIB, $16/$155) presents the full report. To order data, or for general information, contact Client Services (1 877 421-3067 or 613-951-3549; retailinfo@statcan.ca). For further analytical information, contact Paul Gratton (613-951-3541; gratpau@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division.*

Wholesale sales unchanged

Wholesale sales growth paused in April, remaining virtually unchanged from March at $29.3 billion. Sales rose in 6 of the 11 trade groups, but their strength was only sufficient to offset the declines. Except for a slowdown in the first half of 1998, sales have been climbing for more than three years.

April's notable declines occurred in beverage, drug and tobacco products (-2.5%), apparel and dry goods (-2.4%), and metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies (-1.7%). Higher sales were posted by wholesalers of household goods (+1.7%), computers, packaged software and other electronic machinery (+1.5%) and food products (+1.2%).

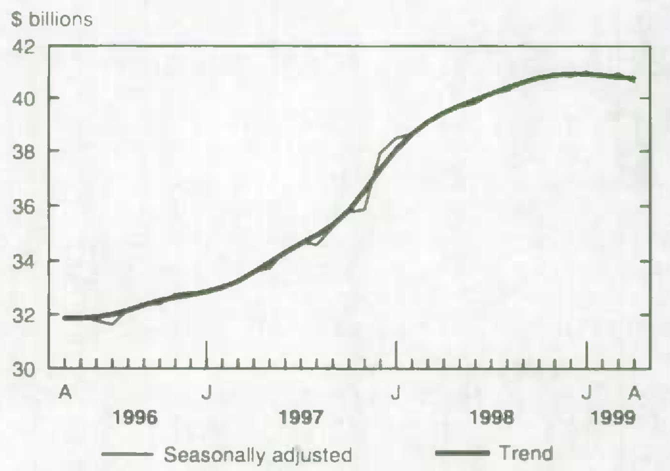
Wholesalers of farm machinery, equipment and supplies continued to make progress with a gain of 0.4%. Despite this fourth consecutive monthly increase, sales remained only 1.0% above the April 1998 level and were still below the levels achieved during the summer of 1997. Wholesaling of farm machinery, equipment and supplies was severely affected by the Asian economic crisis and by the lower commodity prices that accompanied it. Current improvements within the industry may be attributable to improvements in the economies of Japan and other Asian nations. The industry has also been restructuring and diversifying in an attempt to maintain profitability even during down cycles. In addition, the dry spring in Eastern Canada may have led to an early start to the agricultural season.

Wholesale inventories are at a plateau. Despite the stagnant sales growth from March to April, wholesalers cut their inventories 0.8% to $40.6 billion. The largest decline was in the farm machinery, equipment and supplies trade group (-2.7%), a reflection of possible reluctance to accumulate inventories in the wake of the industry's past volatility. The inventory-to-sales ratio dropped in April to 1.38, down from 1.40 in March. After levelling off at about 1.36 during 1996 and 1997, the ratio peaked at 1.47 in mid-1998 and has been falling since.

Note to readers

Starting with the April data, wholesale trade presents separate estimates for Nunavut and the Northwest Territories. In order to provide a complete data series for 1999, estimates have also been generated for January, February and March.

Wholesale inventories



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

*The April 1999 issue of **Wholesale trade** (63-008-XIB, $14/$140) can be downloaded from the Internet at www.statcan.ca. For general enquiries, or to order data, contact Client Services (1 877 421-3067 or 613-951-3549; wholesaleinfo@statcan.ca). For further analytical information, contact Alexander Hays (613-951-3552; haysale@statcan.ca), Distributive Trades Division.*

Number of EI recipients declines again

In April, 513,450 Canadians received employment insurance benefits (the regular type of benefits). That was down 1.6% from March and the eighth monthly decrease in nine months. Among the provinces and territories, monthly increases in the number of EI recipients were recorded only in Alberta, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut, and Newfoundland. Meanwhile, the number of unemployed persons filing jobless claims fell 4.9% to 216,300. The amount paid out as regular benefits in April remained relatively unchanged from March at $666.4 million.

Note that the number of beneficiaries is a measure of all the persons who received EI benefits for the week containing the 15th day of the month, whereas the amount paid out as regular benefits is the total of all monies received by individuals in the entire month. These different reference periods must be considered when making data comparisons.

Also, the Employment Insurance Act allows each province or administrative region of Human Resources Development Canada some autonomy in the way renewal claims are handled. That autonomy may affect the month-to-month changes in claims levels.

EI beneficiaries receiving regular benefits, April 1999
Seasonally adjusted

	Beneficiaries	% change, previous month
Canada	**513,450**	**-1.6**
Newfoundland	35,670	0.6
Prince Edward Island	8,100	-3.3
Nova Scotia	26,830	-4.3
New Brunswick	34,320	-1.9
Quebec	175,090	-2.0
Ontario	102,350	-2.2
Manitoba	12,950	-3.6
Saskatchewan	12,810	-1.0
Alberta	40,190	2.4
British Columbia	66,120	-1.1
Yukon	1,010	-12.2
Northwest Territories and Nunavut	1,250	1.8

Available on CANSIM: matrices 26 (series 1.6), 5700-5717, 5735 and 5736.

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

Good year for private radio broadcasters

In 1998, revenues of the radio and television broadcasting industry reached $4.14 billion, up from 1997 by 5.1%. Even so, employment in this industry decreased slightly from 27,909 employees in 1997 to 27,408.

Private radio broadcasters realised their best financial performance in years in 1998. Their revenues increased 8.1% to $941.7 million and their profit before income tax vaulted 34.7% to $92.0 million. Their profit margin was 9.8%—the highest since 1980.

As for the private television broadcasters, their 1998 financial performance was more modest. Their revenues grew 7.0% to reach $1,821.9 million, but faster growth in expenses had a negative effect on their bottom line. Their profit before income tax declined to $112.3 million in 1998, down from $167.2 million a year earlier. The private television broadcasters' employment in 1998 totalled 7,761, practically unchanged from the 1997 level of 7,788 employees.

The revenues of public and non-commercial radio and television broadcasters have been relatively stable for three years. In 1998, their revenues totalled $1,375.2 million. This compares with $1,365.7 million in 1997 and $1,381.3 million in 1996. The number of people employed by this segment of the industry was 10,980 in 1998, a decline of 2,190 from 1995.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1810 and 1818.

A summary report on this topic appears in the Vol. 29, no. 1 issue of ***Communications service bulletin: Radio and television statistics*** *(56-001-XIB, $10/32). For further information, contact Tom Gorman (613-951-3498; fax: 613-951-9920; gormtom@statcan.ca), Science, Innovation and Electronic Information Division.*

New from Statistics Canada

Insights on...
Spring 1999

The Spring 1999 issue of *Insights on...* features two articles. The first is titled "Change in the share of employment by firm size over the period 1989 to 1996". It provides a general overview of small, medium and large firms, as well as a look at their contributions to employment. The second, "The eating habits of Canadians", examines the latest trends.

Insights on... is a free newsletter on emerging trends in business and trade. It documents developments in Canadian industry and examines how businesses are responding to new challenges and opportunities. Also included is information on new Statistics Canada products and services that pertain to business and industry.

The newsletter, ***Insights on...*** *(paper: 61F0019XPE, $40/$100; Internet at www.statcan.ca: 61F0019XIE, no charge), is now available. To order, or for further information, contact Jenny Grenier (613-951-1020; grenjen@statcan.ca), Small Business and Special Surveys Division.*

Inventory of Statistics Canada's questionnaires on CD-ROM
1998

The 1998 edition of *Inventory of Statistics Canada's questionnaires on CD-ROM* contains scanned images of the questionnaires used to conduct questionnaire-based surveys in 1998. The disc provides full-text retrieval, allowing for searches by word or subject. It also has a viewer for displaying page-by-page images of the questionnaires.

Each survey is listed along with the titles of the questionnaires used, their form numbers and frequency. Information is also given about the printed and electronically available data series through which the resulting data are disseminated. Names and telephone numbers of contact persons are also provided for each survey.

The 1998 edition of ***Inventory of Statistics Canada's questionnaires on CD-ROM*** *(12-205-XCB, $150) is now available. The price is subject to Statistics Canada's discount policy. For further information, or to order this product, contact Michael Webber (613-951-3458; fax: 613-951-8578; webbmic@statcan.ca), Standards Division.*

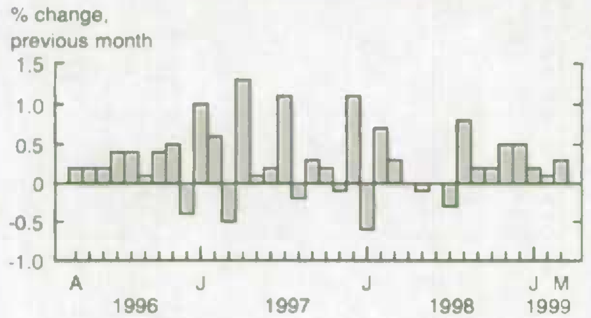
Canada's preparedness for the Year 2000 computer problem: final report

The final report for the National Survey on Preparedness for the Year 2000 is now available. Statistics Canada conducted the survey in February and March 1999, to study how public and private sector organizations were dealing with the Year 2000 computer problem.

Canada's preparedness for the Year 2000 computer problem *(61F0057MIE, no charge) is available from Statistics Canada's web site, www.statcan.ca. Look under "Products and services", then "Downloadable publications (free)", followed by "Business enterprises" and "Business and trade statistics, special survey reports". For further information, contact Tony Labillois (613-951-1478; fax: 613-951-1572; labiton@statcan.ca), Small Business and Special Surveys Division.*

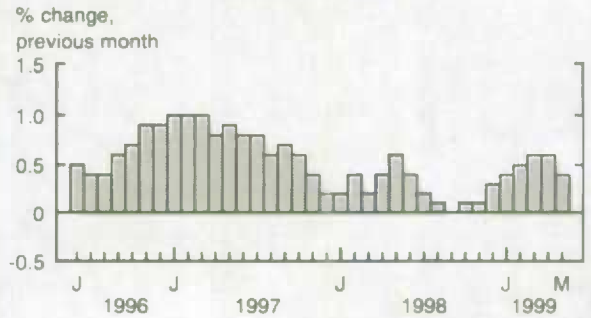
Current trends

Gross domestic product



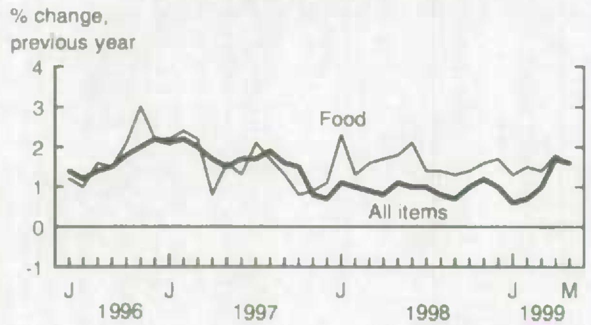
Economic activity continued to advance in March (+0.3%), extending the steady expansion that began in mid-1998.

Composite Index



The leading indicator grew in May by 0.4%, in line with the 0.5% average posted so far this year.

Consumer Price Index

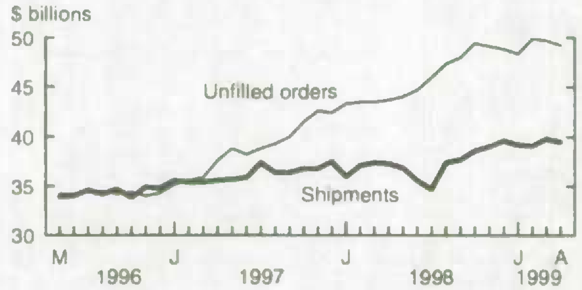


Consumers paid 1.6% more for goods and services in May 1999 than they did a year earlier. Food prices rose 1.6%.

Unemployment rate

In May, the number of people looking for work fell, pushing the unemployment rate down 0.2 percentage points to 8.1%

Manufacturing



Manufacturers' shipments decreased 0.8% in April to $39.5 billion. The backlog of unfilled orders slipped 1.0% to $49.2 billion.

Merchandise trade

In April, the value of merchandise exports edged down 0.9% from March to $28.7 billion. Imports continued their downward trend (-0.3%) to $26.3 billion.

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

Latest statistics

	Period	Level	Change, previous period	Change, previous year
GENERAL				
Gross domestic product ($ billion, 1992)	April*	735.5	0.3%	2.7%
Composite Index (1981=100)	May	214.0	0.4%	4.0%
Operating profits of enterprises ($ billion)	Q1 1999	..	3.1%	..
Capacity utilization (%)	Q1 1999	83.1	0.5†	– 0.3†
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail trade ($ billion)	April	21.2	0.4%	2.7%
New motor vehicle sales (thousand of units)	April	128.2	1.5%	3.2%
Wholesale trade ($ billion)	April	29.3	0.0%	5.1%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	May	14.64	– 0.1%	2.5%
Unemployment rate (%)	May	8.1	– 0.2†	– 0.3†
Participation rate (%)	May	65.7	– 0.3†	0.6†
Average weekly earnings ($)	April*	607.42	0.2%	– 0.1%
Help-wanted Index (1996=100)	May	157	0.9%	10.0%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise exports ($ billion)	April	28.7	– 0.9%	8.5%
Merchandise imports ($ billion)	April	26.3	– 0.3%	4.7%
Merchandise trade balance (all figures in $ billion)	April	2.4	– 0.2	1.1
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments ($ billion)	April	39.5	– 0.8%	5.9%
New orders ($ billion)	April	39.0	– 1.5%	4.1%
Unfilled orders ($ billion)	April	49.2	– 1.0%	12.6%
Inventory/shipments ratio	April	1.27	– 0.02	– 0.03
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1992=100)	May	110.4	0.3%	1.6%
Industrial Product Price Index (1992=100)	May*	119.9	– 0.1%	0.8%
Raw Materials Price Index (1992=100)	May*	113.5	1.4%	2.6%
New Housing Price Index (1992=100)	April	100.6	0.1%	0.7%

***Note:** All series are seasonally adjusted with the exception of the price indexes.*
* *new this week*
† *percentage point*
.. *figures not available yet due to a survey redesign*

Infomat
A weekly review

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The first (official) release of all statistical information produced by Statistics Canada occurs in *The Daily* (www.statcan.ca), available at 8:30 a.m. *The Daily* presents highlights from new data releases, along with sources, links and contacts for further information. It also contains schedules of upcoming major news releases and announces the Agency's new products and services.

The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences – Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48 – 1984.

Publications released from June 24 to 30, 1999

Division/Title of publication	Period	Catalogue number	Price: Issue/Subscription Canada (C$)	Outside Canada (US$)
AGRICULTURE				
Field crop reporting series, vol. 78, no. 4:				
Preliminary estimates of principal field crop areas, Canada	1999	22-002-XPB	15/88	15/88
Food consumption in Canada, part 1	1998			
Internet		32-229-XIB	25	
Paper		32-229-XPB	33	33
Fruit and vegetable production	June 1999	22-003SXIB	23/46	
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND FINANCIAL FLOWS				
Canada's international transactions in securities	April 1999	67-002-XPB	18/176	18/176
CANADIAN CENTRE FOR JUSTICE STATISTICS				
Juristat, vol. 19, no. 8: Alternative measures for youth in Canada				
Internet		85-002-XIE	8/70	
Paper		85-002-XPE	10/93	10/93
CULTURE, TOURISM AND THE CENTRE FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS				
Education in Canada	1998			
Internet		81-229-XIB	38	
Paper		81-229-XPB	51	51
DISTRIBUTIVE TRADES				
Wholesale trade	April 1999	63-008-XIB	14/140	
HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS				
Family incomes, census families	1997	13-208-XIB	21	
INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION AND FINANCE				
Insights on...	Spring 1999			
Internet		61F0019XIE	no charge	
Paper		61F0019XPE	40/100	40/100
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Imports by commodity	April 1999			
Microfiche		65-007-XMB	37/361	37/361
Paper		65-007-XPB	78/773	78/773
LABOUR STATISTICS				
Quarterly estimates of trusteed pension funds	Q4 1998	74-001-XPB	19/62	19/62
MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION AND ENERGY				
Construction-type plywood	April 1999	35-001-XIB	5/47	
Crude petroleum and natural gas production	March 1999	26-006-XPB	19/186	19/186
Electric lamps (light bulbs and tubes)	May 1999	43-009-XIB	5/47	
Gas utilities	March 1999	55-002-XPB	17/165	17/165
Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard	April 1999	36-003-XIB	5/47	
Production and disposition of tobacco products	May 1999	32-022-XIB	5/47	
SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND ELECTRONIC INFORMATION				
Science statistics service bulletin, vol. 23, no. 3: Industrial research and development	1994 to 1998	88-001-XIB	6/59	
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Calendar of key releases: July

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			1	2
5	6	7 **Building permits**, May 1999 **Help-wanted index**, June 1999	8	9 **Labour force survey**, June 1999
12 **New housing price index**, May 1999 **Employment insurance coverage**, 1998*	13	14 **New motor vehicle sales**, May 1999	15 **Travel between Canada and other countries**, May 1999	16 **Consumer price index**, June 1999 **Composite index**, June 1999
19 **Monthly survey of manufacturing**, May 1999	20 **Canadian international merchandise trade**, May 1999 **Wholesale trade**, May 1999	21 **Retail trade**, May 1999 **Crime statistics**, 1998*	22 **Canada's international transactions in securities**, May 1999	23
26	27 **Employment insurance**, May 1999	28 **Private and public investment**, 1999 (revised) **Employment, earnings and hours**, May 1999	29 **Industrial product price index**, June 1999 **Raw materials price index**, June 1999	30 **Real GDP at factor cost by industry**, May 1999

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