Catalogue 11-002E (Français 11-002F) ISSN 0380-0547

Infomat

A Weekly Review

Friday, June 14, 2002

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◆ **Spending on culture up again after years of decline**

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◆ **Port activity down slightly**

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◆ **Almost a quarter million households no longer use Internet**

Almost one-quarter million Canadian households that had used the Internet regularly reported that they no longer did so. Over half of these "dropout" households used to surf the Internet at least once a week.

Largest five-month employment gain in eight years

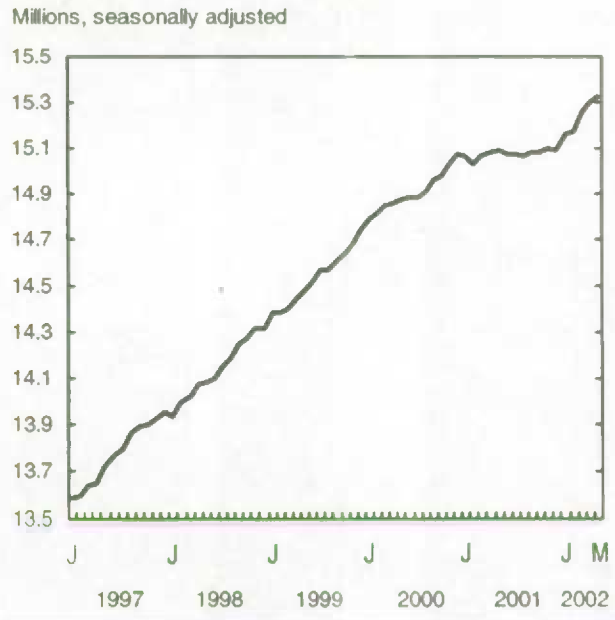
Employment increased for the fifth consecutive month, with gains of 31,000 in May. Since the labour market rebound began in January, employment has increased 237,000, the largest five-month gain since 1994.

Even with added employment in May, the unemployment rate edged up 0.1 percentage points to 7.7%. All of the unemployment increase occurred among youths. While more 15- to 24-year-olds entered the labour market in search of work, youth employment edged down in retail and wholesale trade and food service.

Much of the source of this year's employment gain has been in manufacturing, where the number of jobs has increased 3.7% to 83,000. However, manufacturing employment was unchanged in May. Transportation equipment manufacturers added employees, but this was offset by tumbling high-tech manufacturing employment and fewer wood product manufacturing jobs.

(continued on page 2)

Employment



Largest five-month employment... *(continued from page 1)*

With soaring home building, construction employment increased 8,000, bringing gains so far this year to 20,000. After falling for two years, employment in education began an upward trend about a year ago, increasing by 27,000 in May. Education employment has risen 49,000 during the first five months of 2002.

Professional, scientific and technical services employment increased by 15,000 in May. Much of the gains in this sector can be attributed to an expansion of the computer systems design services industry in Ontario.

Agricultural employment in Saskatchewan was up 3,000, close to half the national gain in that industry. The unemployment rate in Saskatchewan was 5.9%, unchanged from April, as a large gain in employment was held in check by added labour force participation.

Since peaking at 112,000 in September 2001, oil and gas employment in Alberta has tumbled 21,000 (-19%), including a drop of 5,000 in May.

Employment in Quebec rose 23,000, adding to the strong gains made in the province this year. Meanwhile, the unemployment rate fell from 8.6% to 8.3%. Employment was up 12,000 in Ontario, but the unemployment rate remained unchanged at 7.0%. There were small gains in education, transportation equipment manufacturing and computer systems design services.

With an increase of 4,000 in employment, and added labour force participation, the unemployment rate in Nova Scotia held steady at 9.8%. Although employment in British Columbia fell 11,000, it remains up 29,000 from the start of the year. The drop was concentrated in manufacturing and accommodation, and was enough to cause the unemployment rate to jump from 8.7% to 9.5%.

Reduced fishery and manufacturing jobs caused employment in Newfoundland and Labrador to fall 3,000, driving the unemployment rate up from 15.3% to 16.8%. Employment in Prince Edward Island fell 1,200. This coincided with a drop in labour force participation, causing the unemployment rate to increase only 0.2 percentage points.

Labour Force Survey, May 2002
Seasonally adjusted[1]

	Labour force		Employment		Unemployment	
	'000	% change, previous month	'000	% change, previous month	'000	rate (%)
Canada	**16,611.0**	**0.3**	**15,327.2**	**0.2**	**1,283.7**	**7.7**
Newfoundland and Labrador	257.8	0.2	214.6	-1.5	43.2	16.8
Prince Edward Island	75.3	-1.6	66.7	-1.8	8.6	11.4
Nova Scotia	477.7	0.9	431.1	0.9	46.6	9.8
New Brunswick	383.8	-0.7	346.0	-0.3	37.8	9.8
Quebec	3,932.9	0.3	3,606.8	0.6	326.1	8.3
Ontario	6,477.7	0.2	6,024.7	0.2	452.9	7.0
Manitoba	594.7	-0.2	562.7	-0.1	32.0	5.4
Saskatchewan	509.0	1.2	478.8	1.2	30.2	5.9
Alberta	1,757.2	0.8	1,654.1	0.2	103.0	5.9
British Columbia	2,145.0	0.3	1,941.7	-0.6	203.3	9.5

[1] *Data are for both sexes aged 15 and over.*

Slightly more than half of May's employment increase was in part-time work. While 98,000 part-time jobs have been created this year, full-time growth has been strong as well, reaching 139,000.

Employment among men increased 25,000, mostly the result of added jobs in construction, transportation equipment manufacturing and computer services. Employment increased 19,000 for women, because of added work in the education sector.

Labour force information *for the week ending May 18 (Internet: 71-001-PIB, $8/$78; paper: 71-001-PPB, $11/$103) is now available. For general information, contact the Client Services Unit (1-866-873-8788; 613-951-4090; labour@statcan.ca). For analytical information, contact Geoff Bowlby (613-951-3325) or Vincent Ferrao (613-951-4750), Labour Statistics Division. (See also "Current trends" on page 7.)*

Manufacturing contributes lion's share of increase in production capacity

Industrial capacity use rose from 80.4% in the fourth quarter of 2001, when the economic recovery began, to 81.7% in the first three months of 2002.

The increase, which halted six straight quarterly declines, was led by the manufacturing sector, where capacity use advanced 1.8 percentage points to 80.6%. This was the largest advance in more than three years, with 17 of the 21 major industry groups registering gains.

Employment growth helped to restore consumer confidence and bolster domestic demand. Also, the recovery of the U.S. economy favoured exports to that country and contributed to stronger foreign demand.

To meet rising demand, manufacturers responded by drawing on their inventories and increasing production. According to April's Business Conditions Survey, manufacturers reported that inventory levels had been brought under control, orders were up and it was time to step up production.

Contributing most to the increase in the manufacturing sector was the transportation equipment manufacturing group. Its rate of capacity use rose 3.3 percentage points to 88.1%. Financial incentives offered by automobile dealers and the strength of U.S. demand gave a powerful boost to motor vehicle sales.

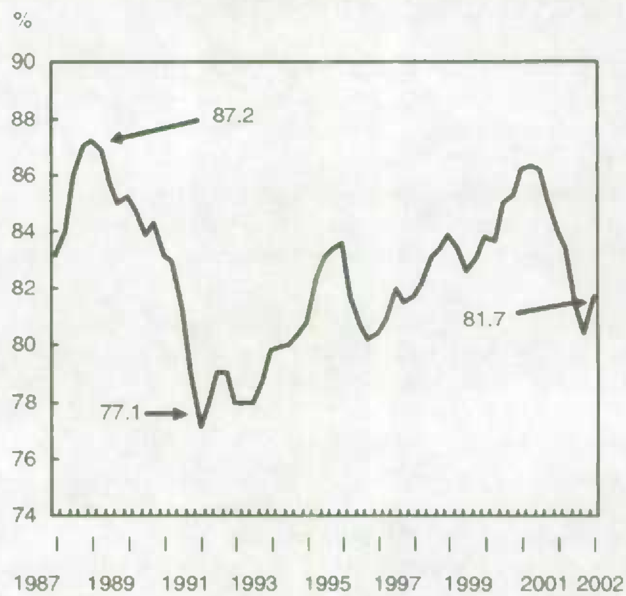
In the wood products group, the rate of capacity use was 85.5%, up 4.6 percentage points from the fourth quarter of 2001. Manufacturers of wood products increased their output by 5.6% on the strength of the residential market in both Canada and the United States.

The higher demand for new homes also affected manufacturers of glass and glass products, cement and concrete as well as gypsum, causing them to increase production. Furniture manufacturers also raised their capacity use to meet the demand for articles to furnish these new homes, thus pushing the rate up 3.2 percentage points to 74.8%.

Industrial capacity utilization rates, first quarter 2002

	%	% point change, previous quarter	% point change, previous period
Total industrial	**81.7**	**1.3**	**-2.3**
Forestry and logging	70.0	-5.8	-18.4
Oil and gas extraction	70.2	1.0	-2.0
Mining	82.6	0.4	-8.3
Electric power generation, transmission and distribution	87.7	1.5	-1.3
Construction	90.7	0.9	0.4
Manufacturing	80.6	1.8	-2.2

Industrial capacity utilization rates



In the field of computer and electronic products manufacturing, the rate of capacity use advanced 4.7 percentage points to 65.7%. This was the first increase since the peak of 99.5% reached in the third quarter of 2000.

The chemicals manufacturing industry group operated at 78.4% capacity, up 3.0 percentage points from the fourth quarter of 2001. Most of the industries in this group increased their production, but growth was especially strong among pharmaceutical manufacturers, who posted a 6.8% output increase in the first quarter of 2002.

The higher production in the manufacturing sector had a spillover effect on production activity in the electrical energy sector. Increased demand for electricity in manufacturing contributed to a 1.8% rise in the output of the electrical energy sector and a hike in its rate of capacity use to 87.7%, up 1.5 percentage points from the fourth quarter of 2001.

Capacity use in the construction industry advanced 0.9 percentage points to 90.7%, thanks to a 7.4% rise in the output of residential construction. Improved consumer confidence, low interest rates and strong employment growth led consumers to purchase new homes in record numbers. Also, home building benefited from an exceptionally mild winter.

Conversely, output in the logging and forestry industry fell 7.7% and production capacity declined 5.8 percentage points to an all-time low of 70.0%.

For more information, contact Mychèle Gagnon (613-951-0994) or Richard Landry (613-951-2579), Investment and Capital Stock Division.

Spending on culture up again after years of decline

Federal, provincial and municipal governments spent almost $5.9 billion on culture in the fiscal year 1999/2000, the second consecutive increase. This follows eight years of decline. In constant dollars, spending was up 1.5% from 1998/99.

In current dollars, total combined spending by all three levels of government returned to about the level it was in the fiscal year 1993/94, the period when major declines in spending were first seen.

Population increases mean that spending per capita was down significantly from 1993/94 levels. The federal government spent $92 per person on culture, about $7 below the 1993/94 level. The provinces and territories spent $63 per capita, down $2, and the municipalities $47, also down $2.

Municipal governments spent just under $1.5 billion on culture in 1999, a 6.7% increase. Spending by provincial and territorial governments was up 2.9% to about $1.9 billion. Federal outlays for culture remained virtually unchanged at $2.8 billion.

The share of each of the three major categories of spending (operating expenditures, capital expenditures, and grants and contributions) varied widely between 1993/94 and 1999/2000. For example, federal grants, contributions and other transfers to artists and cultural organizations accounted for 20% of the total cultural budget in 1999/2000, compared with 14% in 1993/94.

Artists and cultural organizations received $563.1 million in grants and contributions in 1999/2000, up 9.7% from 1998/99 and up 38.4% from 1993/94.

The film and video industry was the major beneficiary, accounting for about one-half of the increase in grants between 1993/94 and 1999/2000. The industry's share of the grant budget in 1999/2000 was 37%, compared with 32% in 1993/94.

The $2.1 billion devoted to the operational budgets of cultural departments and agencies consumed nearly three-quarters of the total federal cultural budget in 1999/2000, up 1.1% from 1998/99. Capital spending accounted for about 7% of federal cultural spending, down from about 10% in 1993/94.

Provincial/territorial spending on culture was up for the second straight year in 1999/2000. While the levels in current dollars had also returned to 1993/94 levels, only grants and contributions were up over this six-year period.

The grants portion of provincial/territorial cultural budget increased 3.7% to $1.2 billion, which accounted for 62% of the total budget in 1999/2000. But this level was only 2.0% higher than in 1993/94.

Combined municipal outlays in culture increased in 1999 in all provinces and territories, except Saskatchewan, Alberta, and the Northwest Territories and Nunavut combined. This gain was due largely to a growth in funding for libraries, which account for four-fifths of the total municipal cultural budget.

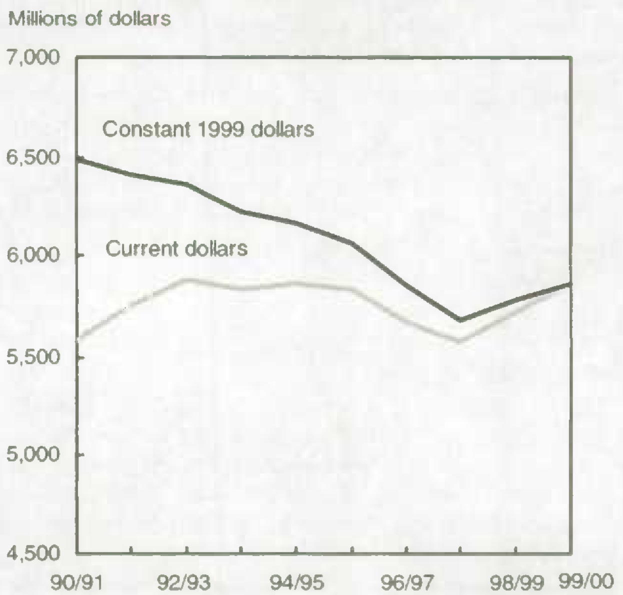
Selected data from the survey are available in table format in ***Government expenditures on culture****, 1999/2000 (paper: 87F0001XPE, $50). For general information, contact Client Services (1-800-307-3382; cult.tourstats@statcan.ca). For analytical information, contact Norman Verma (613-951-6863; norman.verma@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.*

Note to readers

The survey of federal and provincial/territorial government expenditures on culture is a census of all 29 federal and 180 provincial/territorial departments and agencies with culture-related expenses. Data are collected for libraries, heritage, arts education, literary arts, performing arts, visual arts and crafts, film and video, broadcasting, sound recording and multiculturalism.

There are three main categories of spending on culture: ***operating expenditures*** *(costs to run cultural departments and agencies),* ***capital expenditures*** *(construction and acquisition of building, etc.) and* ***grants and contributions*** *(financial assistance to artists and organizations in the cultural sector). Unless otherwise stated, all values are in current dollars with no adjustment for inflation.*

Total government expenditures on culture



Port activity down slightly

Economic activity at Canada's ports fell slightly during the first six months of 2001 compared with the same period a year earlier, mainly because of lower shipments of coal, iron ore and wheat to foreign destinations.

Canada's ports handled 179.2 million metric tonnes of cargo between January and June last year, down 2.5% from the same period in 2000.

Shipments fell in six of the nation's 12 major ports, including the busiest, Vancouver, which accounted for 21% of all shipping in Canada. Vancouver handled 37.5 million tonnes of cargo, down 3.8%. The biggest decline was recorded by Port-Cartier, where shipments fell 54.8% to 3.8 million tonnes, as a result of a sharp decrease in loadings of iron ore.

The picture was brighter for Atlantic ports. Saint John reported a 28.1% increase in shipments to almost 12.1 million tonnes, while Port Hawkesbury had a 48.7% increase to 11.6 million tonnes.

Both domestic and international sectors reported declines. International shipments, which accounted for more than three-quarters of the total, fell 2.3% to 133.8 million tonnes. Domestic shipments declined 3.1% to just under 45.4 million tonnes.

Cargo tonnage received from foreign ports showed a strong 9.8% gain, led by sharply higher shipments of foreign crude petroleum and a doubling of fuel oil shipments. Activity in ports at Port Hawkesbury, Saint John, and Halifax increased largely as a result of the gains in foreign crude.

Canada's top 12 ports by tonnage handled
January to June, 2000 and 2001

	Total tonnage, domestic and international sectors		
	2000	2001	
	'000		% change
Vancouver	39 009	37 521	-3.8
Saint John	9 430	12 078	28.1
Port Hawkesbury	7 788	11 577	48.7
Sept-îles/Pte-Noire	9 920	9 346	-5.8
Montréal/Contrecoeur	9 071	8 990	-0.9
Come-By-Chance	9 369	8 341	-11.0
Québec/Lévis	6 641	6 852	3.2
Halifax	6 741	6 783	0.6
Nanticoke	5 591	5 998	7.3
Fraser River	5 325	5 389	1.2
Port-Cartier	8 349	3 774	-54.8
Hamilton	3 951	3 667	-7.2

The gains in inbound foreign cargo were more than offset by an 8.4% decrease in outbound shipments to foreign ports, which fell to 83.3 million tonnes. Loadings of iron ore were particularly hard hit, declining 28.4%. Coal shipments to other countries dropped 7.2%, while wheat shipments were down 20.2%.

The decline in domestic cargo was because of lower shipments of logs, iron ore and stone, sand and gravel. Ports at Howe Sound and North Arm Fraser River were most affected by a 30.6% decrease in log shipments.

For more information, contact Jean-Robert Larocque (613-951-2486; fax: 613-951-0009; laroque@statcan.ca), Transportation Division.

2001 Census of Agriculture: Farm operations in the 21st century

New data covering all variables for the 2001 Census of Agriculture for small geographic areas are now available. These areas, called census consolidated subdivisions (CCSs), are equivalent to towns and townships, villages, and rural municipalities.

Farm data for the 2001 Census of Agriculture *is available on CD-ROM (95F0304XCB, farm data only, $495). For more information, contact User Services (1-800-465-1991) or Michel McCartin (613-951-1090; michel.mccartin@statcan.ca), Agriculture Division.*

Almost a quarter million households no longer use Internet

Just over 232,000 Canadian households that had used the Internet regularly reported that they no longer did so. Over half of these "dropout" households used to surf the Internet at least once a week. The most common reason reported for dropping out was that they had "no need" for the Internet.

The data suggests that either the Internet did not offer what these people were looking for, or they were content to use more conventional information sources that do not require expensive equipment or special skills. It may also indicate lack of time or difficulty finding what they were searching for.

Some 17% of households reported that they no longer used the Internet regularly because it was too expensive and 14% had quit the Internet because they lost access to a computer. The statistics match those in the United States. In September 2000, 11% of American dropouts said they had quit the Internet because their connection was too costly and 21% said they no longer had a personal computer.

Internet dropouts and infrequent users are more likely to be employed and more likely to be women, compared with regular users of the Internet. They are also less likely to live in households with annual incomes over $60,000 or to have a postsecondary education.

The degree of comfort or familiarity with new technologies may play a role in people's decision to use the Internet. Infrequent Internet users and dropouts reported lower use of other types of technologies, such as fax machines, cell phones and ATMs.

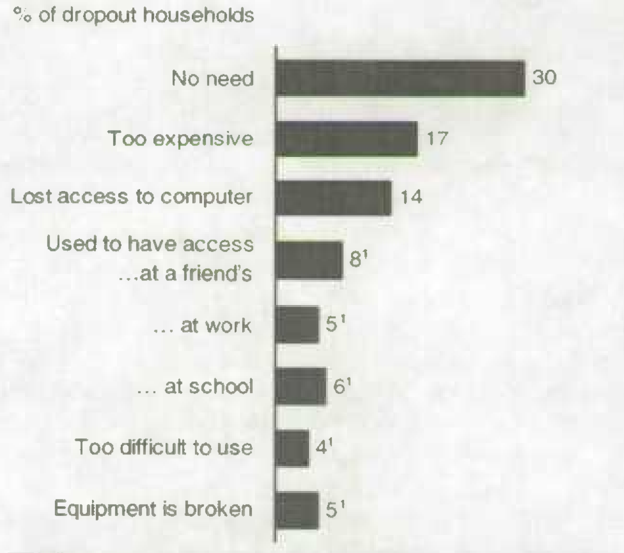
Infrequent users reported being more recent, and therefore less-experienced, users. About 40% have learned to navigate the Internet within the last year, compared with only 14% of regular users. As they gain more experience, infrequent users may then move on to more regular use or drop out, depending on how useful they find the Internet.

While only a small percentage of Canadian dropout households said that the Internet was too difficult or complex, earlier American research identified complexity and frustration as some of the principal barriers to access.

Note to readers

This article is based on data from the 2000 Household Internet Use Survey and the 2000 General Social Survey on access to and use of information communication technology.

Reasons for Internet dropout



¹ *Subject to high sampling variability.*

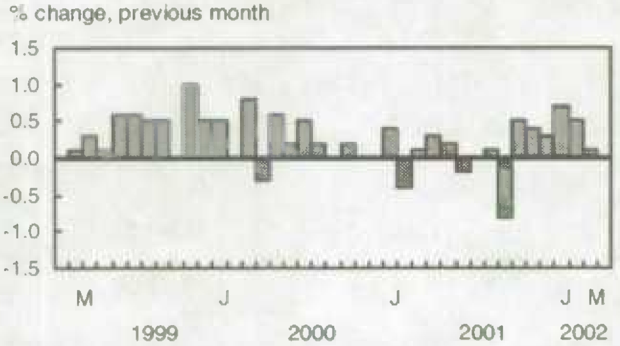
About 10.3 million Canadian adults (42%) had never used the Internet. Almost 75% of non-users were aged 40 or over and their average age was 54. In comparison, the average age of regular users was 34. Almost half of non-users were homemakers, retired or caring for children and over half were women.

Only 22% of all non-users were interested in learning to use the Internet. The top three reasons they gave for not learning were cost, lack of access and not having enough time.

The article "Better things to do or dealt out of the game? Internet dropouts and infrequent users" is now available in the summer 2002 issue of ***Canadian social trends*** *(Internet: 11-008-XIE, $8/$27; paper: 11-008-XPE, $11/$36). For more information, contact Susan Crompton (613 951-2556, cstsc@statcan.ca), Housing, Family and Social Statistics Division.*

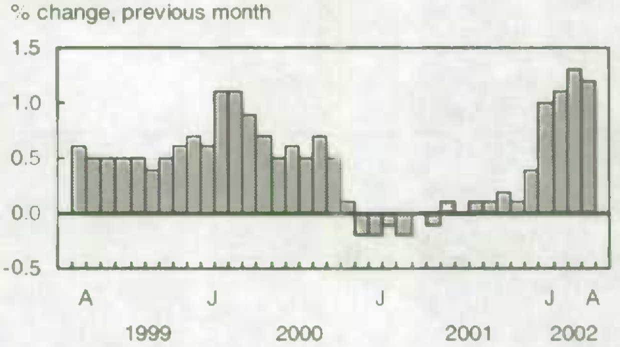
Current trends

Gross domestic product



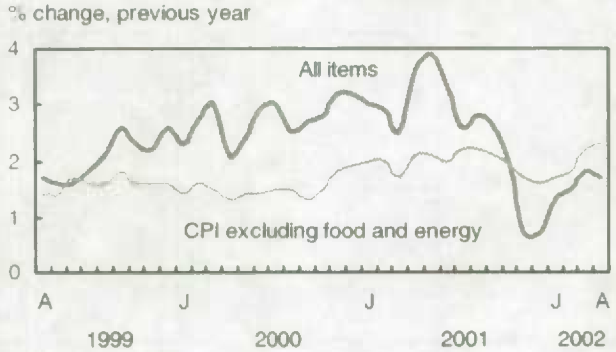
Total economic activity advanced 0.1% in March, after rising 0.5% in February.

Composite index



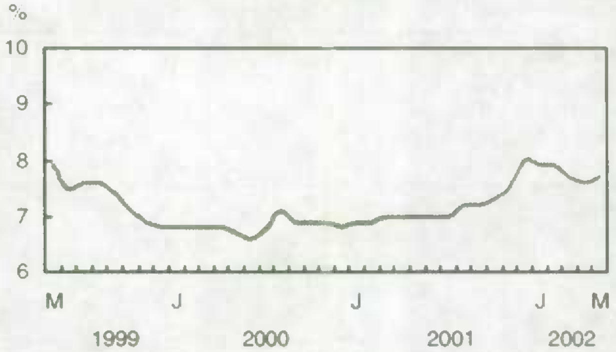
The leading indicator gained 1.2% in April. Manufacturing turned up noticeably as household and export demand improved.

Consumer Price Index



Consumer prices for goods and services were 1.7% higher in April than they were a year earlier. Excluding food and energy, prices rose 2.3%.

Unemployment rate

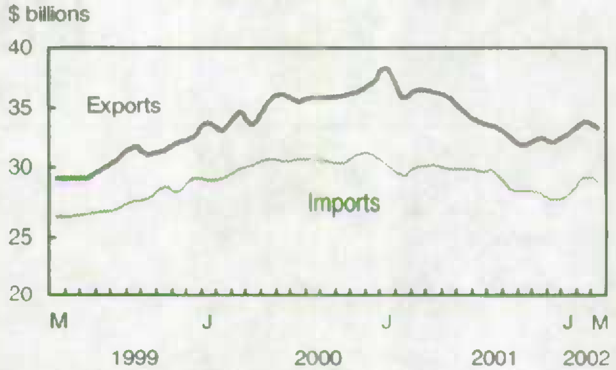


In May, the unemployment rate edged up 0.1 percentage points to 7.7%.

Manufacturing

Manufacturers' shipments declined 0.7% in March to $41.7 billion. The backlog of unfilled orders rose 1.4% to $47.6 billion.

Merchandise trade



In March, the value of merchandise exports slipped 2.0% to $33.2 billion. Imports decreased 1.0% to $28.8 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 ($ billions, 1997)[1]	March	956.0	0.1%	2.0%
Composite Index (1992=100)	April	175.2	1.2%	5.4%
Operating profits of enterprises ($ billions)	Q4 2001	33.8	-5.6%	-29.9%
Capacity utilization rate (%)[2]	Q1 2002*	81.7	1.3†	-2.3†
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail trade ($ billions)	March	25.2	-0.2%	6.1%
New motor vehicle sales (thousands of units)	April*	142.2	1.7%	6.9%
Wholesale trade ($ billions)	March	33.6	-0.2%	2.8%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	May*	15.3	0.2%	1.6%
Unemployment rate (%)	May*	7.7	0.1†	0.7†
Participation rate (%)	May*	66.7	0.1†	0.7†
Average weekly earnings ($)	March	674.04	0.14%	1.86%
Help-wanted Index (1996=100)	May	126.8	0.2%	-19.4%
Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries (in thousands)	March	548.8	-0.8%	9.1%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise exports ($ billions)	March	33.2	-2.0%	-9.1%
Merchandise imports ($ billions)	March	28.8	-1.0%	-4.1%
Merchandise trade balance (all figures in $ billions)	March	4.4	-0.4	9.2
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments ($ billions)	March	41.7	-0.7%	-4.2%
New orders ($ billions)	March	42.3	-0.3%	0.9%
Unfilled orders ($ billions)	March	47.6	1.4%	-2.1%
Inventory/shipments ratio	March	1.49	0.01	-0.01
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1992=100)	April	118.4	0.6%	1.7%
Industrial Product Price Index (1997=100)	April	107.3	0.1%	-1.5%
Raw Materials Price Index (1997=100)	April	112.0	1.1%	-5.7%
New Housing Price Index (1992=100)	April*	109.4	0.6%	3.7%

Note: *All series are seasonally adjusted with the exception of the price indexes.*

* *new this week*

† *percentage point*

[1] *1997 replaces 1992 as the base year used in determining prices for gross domestic product by industry. Also, valuation has been changed from factor cost to basic prices.*

[2] *Calculation of the rates of capacity use is now based on the 1997 North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS), which has replaced the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification.*

Infomat
A weekly review

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Published by the Official Release Unit, Communications Division, Statistics Canada, 10th floor, R.H. Coats Bldg., Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0T6.

Price per issue: paper, $4; online at www.statcan.ca, $3. Annual subscription: paper, $145; online, $109. All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude applicable sales taxes. Shipping charges will be added for delivery outside Canada.

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Products released from June 6 to 12, 2002

SUBJECT AREA Title of product	Period	Catalogue number	Price ($) (issue/subscription)
AGRICULTURE			
Farm data for the 2001 Census of Agriculture	May 15, 2001	95F0304XCB	495
Grain trade of Canada	2000-2001	22-201-XIB	33
Grain trade of Canada	2000-2001	22-201-XPB	44
Production of eggs	April 2002	23-003-XIB	free
Production of poultry and eggs	2001	23-202-XIB	29
GEOGRAPHY			
Population ecumene census division boundary file	2001	92F0159XIE	free
Population ecumene census division boundary file	2001	92F0159XCE	100
Population ecumene census division boundary file, reference guide	2001	92F0159GIE	free
HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS			
Labour Force information	May 2002	71-001-PIB	8/78
Labour Force information	May 2002	71-001-PPB	11/103
HOUSING, FAMILY AND SOCIAL STATISTICS			
Canadian social trends		11-008-XIE	8/27
Canadian social trends		11-008-XPE	11/36
INTERNATIONAL TRADE			
Export by commodity	March 2002	65-004-XMB	37/361
Export by commodity	March 2002	65-004-XPB	78/773
Imports, merchandise trade	2001	65-203-XMB	103
Imports, merchandise trade	2001	65-203-XPB	258
INVESTMENT AND CAPITAL STOCK			
Building permits	April 2002	64-001-XIE	14/145
LABOUR STATISTICS			
Employment, earnings and hours	March 2002	72-002-XIB	24/240
MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION AND ENERGY			
Cement	April 2002	44-001-XIB	5/47
Coal and coke statistics	March 2002	45-002-XIB	9/85
Industrial chemicals and synthetic resins	April 2002	46-002-XIB	5/47
Particleboard, oriented strandboard and fibreboard	April 2002	36-003-XIB	5/47
Production and shipments of steel pipe and tubing.	April 2002	41-011-XIB	5/47
Refined petroleum products	January 2002	45-004-XIB	16/155
Refined petroleum products	January 2002	45-004-XPB	21/206
SCIENCE, INNOVATION AND ELECTRONIC INFORMATION			
Embracing e-business: Does size matter?		56F0004MIE2002006	free
SMALL AREA AND ADMINISTRATIVE DATA			
Longitudinal administrative data dictionary	1999	12-585-XIE	free
TRANSPORTATION			
Canadian Vehicle Survey	2001	53-223-XIE	free

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