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Infomat

A Weekly Review

Friday, August 9, 2002

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- **Shift work may be unhealthy in long run**

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- **Film, video, audio-visual producers earn more than ever before**

  Canada's film, video and audio-visual producers earned more revenue in 1999/2000 than ever before, thanks to surging sales of television productions. Total revenue for the industry amounted to just under \$2.1 billion, more than triple the level in 1991/92.

Economy slows to take a breather

The economy took a breather in May, as gross domestic product remained at April's level, but still 3.5% higher than the low point reported last September.

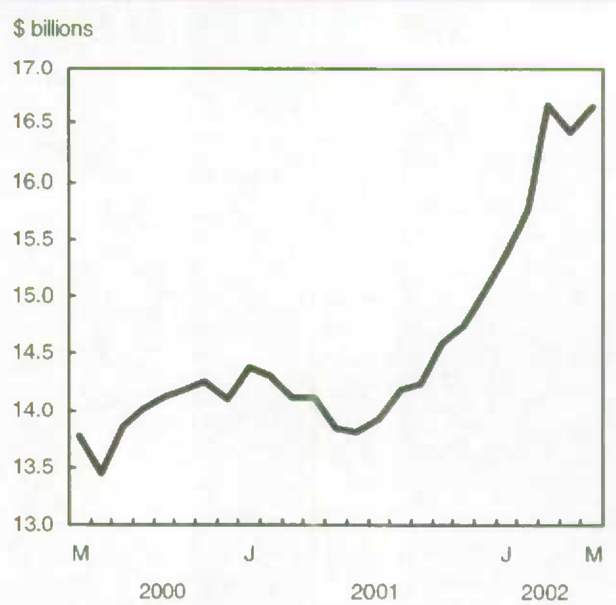
Consumers pulled back on their purchases of non-house-related goods and services. This resulted in a 1.0% decline in retailing activity, including a 0.7% reduction in sales at motor vehicle dealers. However, consumers' insatiable demand for new housing continued unabated.

The services-producing industries raised output 0.3%; however, this was offset by a larger decline (-0.5%) in the goods-producing industries. Much of the strength in the services sector was a result of the resolution of labour strife in the provincial government sector.

Lower production in the mining and manufacturing sectors were responsible for the decline in the goods sector. This is the first decline in the goods-producing industries after a string of sizeable increases since January.

(continued on page 2)

Residential construction output



Economy slows to... *(continued from page 1)*

Manufacturing output declined 0.5% after registering a strong 2.5% gain in April. Sawmills and motor vehicle manufacturers were responsible for the weakness. The temporary elimination of softwood lumber duties resulted in a sharp increase in output for sawmill producers in April. However, before the end of May, Canadian sawmills started to gear down production and, in some cases, completely shut down.

Motor vehicle manufacturers curtailed production 10.3% following a 15.0% boost in production in April. The weakness in manufacturing resulted in reduced demand for energy, transportation and wholesaling services.

Consumer demand for new housing continued, as residential construction advanced 1.3%. All housing types contributed to the strength this month. This high level of residential construction has not been seen since the late 1980s housing boom. The recent boom can be attributed to low interest rates, a limited supply of housing, and high consumer confidence.

The strength in new home construction had a positive impact on construction feeder industries in the manufacturing sector, including producers of wood products, asphalt products, paint, glass and glass products, gypsum and electric lighting equipment. There has also been an upward shift in the manufacturing, retailing and wholesaling of furniture and appliances, as homeowners furnished their new living spaces.

The resale housing market dropped from the peak it reached in January 2002. Activity in the real estate agent and brokerage industry was down 12.6% from January, although it was still 10.3% higher than in May 2001. Increased demand for housing has led to higher activity for lawyers and the banking industry's traditional lines of business (consumer loans and mortgages).

The output of the public administration sector surged as Ontario provincial employees, who were on strike in April, returned to work in early May. The resolution of labour strife in the aerospace industry led to an increase in output of 6.5% and helped offset some of the declines in the transportation equipment sector.

Lower activity was reported in many of the travel-related industries, including restaurants, hotels, air and passenger rail transportation and taxis. The gambling and spectator sports industries, however, made large gains in May. The spectator sports industry benefited from the presence of Canadian teams in the second round of the National Hockey League playoffs.

The May 2002 issue of ***Gross domestic product by industry*** *(Internet: 15-001-XIE, $11/$110) is now available. For general information, contact Ginette Pearson (1-800-887-4623; imad@statcan.ca). For analytical information, contact Jo Ann MacMillan (613-951-7248; joann.macmillan@statcan.ca), Industry Measures and Analysis Division. (See also "Current trends" on page 5.)*

Production prospects remain positive

In July, the vast majority of manufacturers (91%) expected the level of production for the third quarter to change little or increase. Only 9% of firms expected to reduce production in the next three months, down substantially from 17% in April.

Almost 4,000 manufacturers responded to July's Quarterly Business Conditions Survey. About 82% of these manufacturers indicated that the current level of finished-product inventory was about right. This percentage was unchanged from April, but substantially higher than the 70% in July 2001.

According to the Monthly Survey of Manufacturing for May, manufacturers continued to draw down finished-product inventories, closing the month at $19.3 billion, down from a high of $20.2 billion posted in June 2001.

Also, manufacturers were still satisfied with the level of orders received. Almost two-thirds (64%) indicated that the number of orders received was about the same as in the second quarter. Some 20% of manufacturers reported that orders received were rising, while 16% indicated declining orders.

The proportion of manufacturers indicating that the current level of unfilled orders was higher than normal or about right increased from 81% in April to 86%. Some 14% said the level was lower than normal, a marked improvement from the July 2001 survey, when this proportion stood at 40%.

Some 86% of manufacturers indicated that their employment level would change little or increase in the coming three months. According to the June Labour Force Survey, employment in manufacturing rose 113,000 since the beginning of 2002, returning employment in this sector to the peak reached in December 2000.

Manufacturers' expectations and business conditions
Seasonally adjusted

	July 2001	October 2001	January 2002	April 2002	July 2002
	% of manufacturers who said				
Volume of production in next three months will be:					
About the same as in previous three months	55	57	52	58	75
Higher	17	10	18	25	16
Lower	28	33	30	17	9
Orders received are:					
About the same	52	52	50	58	64
Rising	7	5	14	26	20
Declining	41	43	36	16	16
Backlog of unfilled orders is:					
About normal	54	50	65	70	72
Higher than normal	6	4	6	13	14
Lower than normal	40	46	29	17	14
Finished-product inventory is:					
About right	70	78	66	82	82
Too low	2	2	4	4	5
Too high	28	20	30	14	13
Employment in next three months will:					
Change little from previous three months	72	67	71	76	75
Increase	11	9	10	11	11
Decrease	17	24	19	13	14

For general information, contact the dissemination officer (1-866-873-8789; 613-951-9497; manufact@statcan.ca). For analytical information, contact Claude Robillard (613-951-3507; robilcg@statcan.ca), Manufacturing, Construction and Energy Division.

Shift work may be unhealthy in long run

Three out of 10 employed Canadians did some type of shift work in 2000/01. Many of these workers reported problems that ranged from sleep disruption to difficulties with relationships. For most of them, doing shift work was not a choice but a job requirement.

In the long run, shift work may exact a toll on health. Men working an evening, rotating or irregular shift in 1994/95 had higher odds of reporting a diagnosis of a chronic condition in the next four years than did men with regular daytime schedules. For both sexes, working the evening shift in 1994/95 was associated with an increase in psychological distress by 1996/97.

The evening shift seemed to be particularly difficult for men. A high percentage of married men working evenings reported relationship problems with their spouse. For single men, difficulty finding a partner was more common for those working evenings than for those with regular daytime hours.

As well, 45% of men working an evening shift were daily smokers, compared with 27% of daytime workers. For women, an irregular shift was related to high personal stress (for example, trying to do too many things at once or feeling that others expect too much).

Men and women who did shift work were more likely to have trouble falling asleep and staying asleep than regular daytime workers. They were also more likely to report that their sleep was not always refreshing.

Several types of work stress were relatively common among shift workers: job strain for those who worked an evening or rotating shift, and job insecurity for those who worked a rotating or irregular shift.

The rigours of doing shift work may be reflected in the fact that few maintain those hours over several years. Among men and women who did shift work in 1994/95, less than a third continued to do so in both 1996/97 and 1998/99. For the evening shift, the figure was less than one in five.

Men were more likely than women to say that shift work was a requirement of the job: 65% of men and 53% of women working an evening shift reported that they had no choice.

The article "Shift work and health" is now available in ***Health reports****, Vol. 13, no 4 (Internet: 82-003-XIE, $15/$44). A paper version (82-003-XPE, $20/$58) will be available soon. For more information, contact Margot Shields (613-951-4177; margot.shields@statcan.ca), Health Statistics Division.*

Prevalence of work stress, psycho-social and health behaviours, 1994/95

	Men				Women			
	Regular daytime	Evening Shift**	Rotating shift	Irregular shift	Regular daytime	Evening Shift**	Rotating shift	Irregular shift
	%				%			
Work stress								
High job strain	17	30*E1	29*	19	29	40*	45*	34
High physical demands	47	56	59*	50	34	54*	68*	52*
Low supervisor support	19	31E1	17	16	17	17E2	17E1	17
Low co-worker suport	32	37	36	29	34	37	52*	34
High job insecurity	17	27E2	24*	23*	18	19E1	26*	31*
Psycho-social problems								
High personal stress	33	44	36	32	43	41	45	54*
Married - problems with partner	16	36*E2	22	19	21	29E1	24E1	25
Single - difficulty finding a partner	33	55*	35	35	34	30E1	39E1	19*E1
Health Behaviours								
Daily smoker	27	45*	33	28	23	28	30	26
Inactive	59	47	54	54	66	62	63	62
Obese	13	9E2	15	10	11	10E2	12E1	12E1

* *Significantly different from regular daytime schedule (p<0.05).*
** *Excludes night shift workers.*
E1 *Coefficient of variation between 16.6% and 25.0%.*
E2 *Coefficient of variation between 25.1% and 33.3%.*

Film, video, audio-visual producers earn more than ever before

Canada's 732 film, video and audio-visual producers earned more revenue in the 1999/2000 fiscal year than ever before, thanks to surging sales of television productions. Total revenue for the industry amounted to just under $2.1 billion, up 15.7% from 1998/99 and more than triple the level in 1991/92.

Revenues have increased for eight straight years, posting an average annual growth rate of 14.9%. Overall, total revenues grew 203.3% from 1991/92 to 1999/2000; in comparison, the Consumer Price Index grew only 13.5%.

However, despite rising revenues, the industry's profit margin in 1999/2000 was at a four-year low of 4.9%, compared with 7.2% in 1998/99. Behind this slump were declining amounts of non-repayable financial aid, which fell from $144 million in 1998/99 to $130 million, as well as non-salary expenses.

Almost two-thirds of production revenues earned in 1999/2000 came from sales of television programs. Revenues from television reached $868 million, up 13% from 1998/99. Advertising sales represented 12% of total revenue, and theatrical feature films accounted for just 4%.

Television programming sales were even more dominant in the export sector, where they made up 78% of sales of film, video and audio-visual production abroad. In comparison, sales of television programming made up only 51% of domestic sales.

Sales from exports have driven growth in the Canadian film, video and audio-visual production industry. During the 1990s, exports increased seven-fold, rising from $83 million in 1991/92 to $592 million in 1999/2000. During the same period, domestic sales climbed 61.3%, from $499 million to $805 million.

Export sales in 1999/2000 accounted for 42% of production revenue, up considerably from 36% in 1998/99 and from 14% in 1991/92.

Film, video and audio-visual production

	1991/92	1998/99	1999/2000	1991/92 to 1999/2000	1998/99 to 1999/2000
				Average annual % change	% change
Number of firms	742	637	732		
Revenue ($ millions)	688	1,804	2,087	14.9	15.7
Profit margin (%)	11.1	7.2	4.9		

British Columbia producers saw their share of national production revenue rise to 14% in 1999/2000 from 6% in 1998/99. Total revenues amounted to $197 million in 1999/2000. Ontario producers saw their production revenue rise to $735 million from $685 million in 1998/99.

Conversely, revenue for producers in Quebec dipped to $383 million from $397 million in 1998/99. Production revenue fell in both Atlantic Canada and the Prairie provinces. The market share of Atlantic producers remained at 2%, whereas the market share of those in the Prairies declined from 6% to 4%.

Profitability among producers ranged from an overall net loss of 0.1% for Prairie producers to a profit of 6% for Ontario producers. Ontario included some of the country's largest production companies.

Total employment in the industry rose 4.4% to 31,354 in 1999/2000. Combined salaries, benefits and freelance fees climbed 10.5%. Half of this increase was a result of money paid to freelancers.

For general information, contact Client Services (1-800-307-3382; cult.tourstats@statcan.ca). For analytical information, contact David Coish (613-951-1075, david.coish@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

Child and spousal support

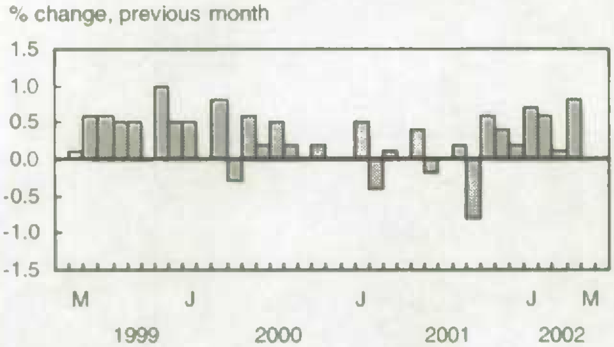
The report *Child and spousal support: Introduction to the Maintenance Enforcement Survey* provides the first data on the collection and enforcement of child and spousal support payments.

The Maintenance Enforcement Survey is designed to provide nationally comparable data on support orders and agreements resulting from separation and divorce.

The publication ***Child and Spousal Support: Introduction to the Maintenance Enforcement Survey****, 1999/2000 (Internet: 85-228-XIE, $27) is now available. For more information, contact Client Services (1-800-387-2231; 613-951-9023), Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics.*

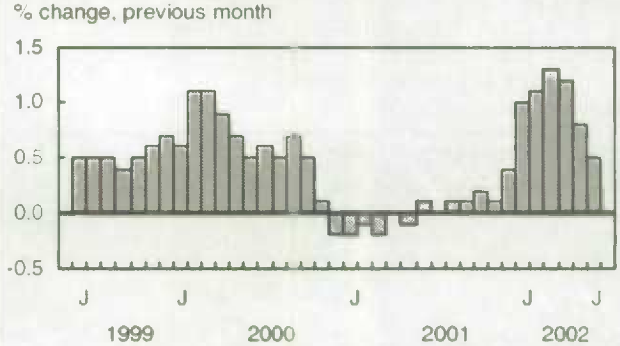
Current trends

Gross domestic product



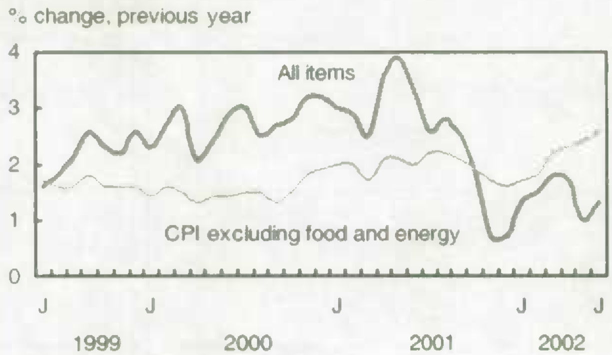
Total economic activity was unchanged in May, after rising 0.8% in April.

Composite index



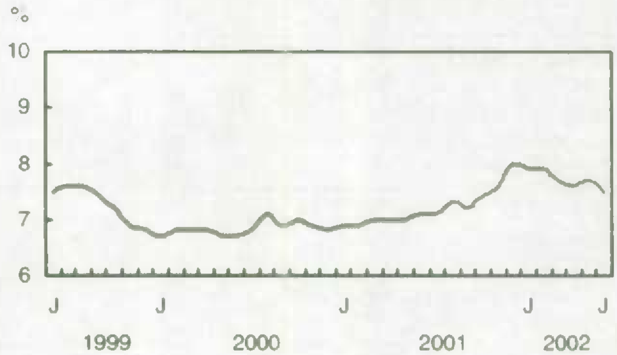
The leading indicator gained 0.5% in June. The advance was broadly based, led by manufacturing.

Consumer Price Index



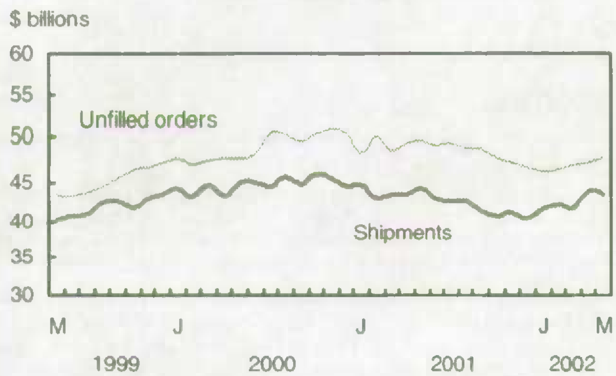
Consumer prices for goods and services were 1.3% higher in June than they were a year earlier. Excluding food and energy, prices rose 2.6%.

Unemployment rate



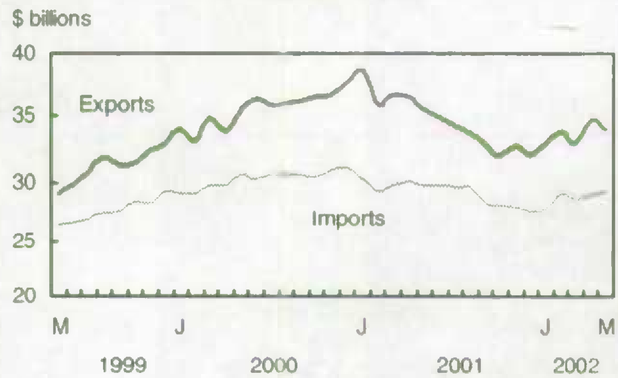
In June, the unemployment rate fell 0.2 percentage points to 7.5%.

Manufacturing



Manufacturers' shipments fell back 1.4% in May to $43.4 billion. The backlog of unfilled orders rose 0.8% to $47.7 billion.

Merchandise trade



In May, the value of merchandise exports declined 1.9% to $33.9 billion. Imports rose 1.2% to $29.4 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]	May	966.7	0.0%	2.6%
Composite Index (1992=100)	June	177.3	0.5%	6.7%
Operating profits of enterprises ($ billions)	Q1 2002	34.7	9.0%	-16.3%
Capacity utilization rate (%)[2]	Q1 2002	81.7	1.3†	-2.3†
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail trade ($ billions)	May	25.1	-1.3%	3.8%
New motor vehicle sales (thousands of units)	May	145.8	2.2%	10.8%
Wholesale trade ($ billions)	May	34.5	-1.2%	4.2%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	June	15.4	0.4%	2.1%
Unemployment rate (%)	June	7.5	-0.2†	0.4†
Participation rate (%)	June	66.8	0.1†	0.9†
Average weekly earnings ($)	May	677.03	0.30%	2.38%
Help-wanted Index (1996=100)	July*	128.3	0.5%	-13.9%
Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries (in thousands)	May	554.2	4.2%	9.9%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise exports ($ billions)	May	33.9	-1.9%	-4.2%
Merchandise imports ($ billions)	May	29.4	1.2%	-1.5%
Merchandise trade balance (all figures in $ billions)	May	4.5	-1.0	-1.1
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments ($ billions)	May	43.4	-1.4%	-2.0%
New orders ($ billions)	May	43.8	-1.1%	-1.7%
Unfilled orders ($ billions)	May	47.7	0.8%	-3.8%
Inventory/shipments ratio	May	1.43	0.02	-0.05
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1992=100)	June	119.0	0.3%	1.3%
Industrial Product Price Index (1997=100)	June	106.7	-0.2%	-1.2%
Raw Materials Price Index (1997=100)	June	111.6	-1.8%	-4.0%
New Housing Price Index (1992=100)	May	110.1	0.6%	4.2%

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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Products released from August 1 to 7, 2002

SUBJECT AREA Title of product	Period	Catalogue number	Price ($) (issue/subscription)
AGRICULTURE			
Cereals and oilseeds review	May 2002	22-007-XIB	11/112
Cereals and oilseeds review	May 2002	22-007-XPB	15/149
CANADIAN CENTRE FOR JUSTICE STATISTICS			
Child and spousal support: introduction to the Maintenance Enforcement Survey	1999/2000	85-228-XIE	27
Maintenance enforcement programs in Canada: Description of operations	1999/2000	85-552-XIE	27
CENSUS OPERATIONS			
2001 Census Handbook	2001	92-379-XPB	25
HEALTH STATISTICS			
Regional socio-economic context and health	2002	82-003-SIE	free
INDUSTRY MEASURES AND ANALYSIS			
Gross domestic product by industry	May 2002	15-001-XIE	11/110
LABOUR STATISTICS			
Employment, earnings and hours	May 2002	72-002-XIB	24/240
MANUFACTURING, CONSTRUCTION AND ENERGY			
Cement	June 2002	44-001-XIB	5/47
Coal and coke statistics	May 2002	45-002-XIB	9/85
Construction type plywood	May 2002	35-001-XIB	5/47
Electric power statistics	May 2002	57-001-XIB	9/85
Shipments of solid fuel burning heating products	Q2 2002	25-002-XIB	6/19

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