



Infomat

A Weekly Review

Friday, December 13, 2002

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◆ Alberta replaces B.C. as destination for job-seekers

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◆ Attendance up at heritage institutions

Canada's 2,600 heritage institutions rode a wave of expanding memberships, increasing attendance, surging earned revenue and higher government grants in 1999. Attendance reached 118.3 million visits and operating revenues hit almost \$1.5 billion.

November gain takes job creation to record 500,000

Canada's labour market kept rolling along in November, adding another 42,000 jobs, most in manufacturing and all full-time. The gain brought the total increase in employment for the first 11 months of the year to 502,000, the most jobs ever created over such a period.

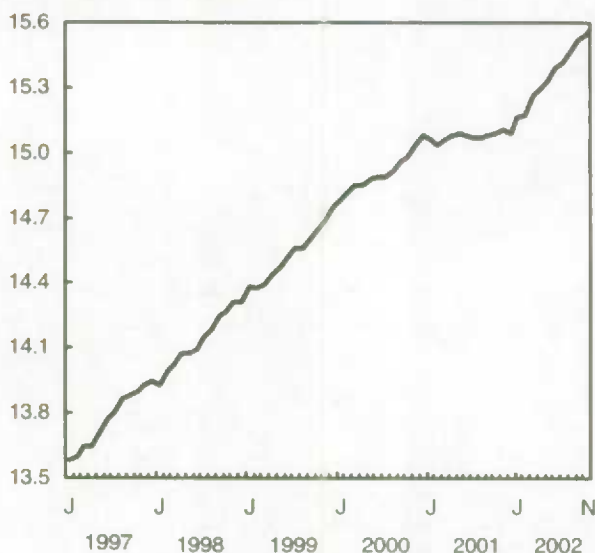
It also took the gap in unemployment rates between Canada and the United States to its narrowest level in more than two decades.

Canada's unemployment rate in November fell to 7.5% from 7.6% in October. At the same time, employment fell in the United States, and as a result, the American unemployment rate rose to 6% from 5.7%.

(continued on page 2)

Employment

Millions, seasonally adjusted



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

November gain takes... (continued from page 1)

In Canada, manufacturing industries created 150,000 new jobs between January and November this year, almost 30% of the total. The largest increases were in food, computers and electronics, as well as machinery manufacturing.

Construction employment fell 16,000 in November, the first decline in seven months. However, job gains so far in 2002 totalled 48,000 (+5.7%), reflecting strong consumer demand for housing.

The number of private sector employees rose 57,000, the fourth consecutive monthly increase, bringing gains so far this year to 280,000 (+2.8%). The number of public sector employees increased by 17,000, offsetting most of October's decline. There has been strength in public sector employment throughout 2002 with gains totalling 123,000 (+4.3%).

Job strength continued among adult men, with employment increasing 20,000 in November, the result of a gain in full-time work. The unemployment rate among adult men fell from 6.7% to 6.5%.

Employment among youths increased slightly (+15,000), the result of a gain in full-time employment. The youth unemployment rate declined from 13.9% in October to 13.6% in November.

Among adult women, employment was little changed, as an increase in full-time jobs was partly offset by a decline in part-time. Their unemployment rate edged up to 6.1% because of a slight increase in labour force participation.

In Alberta, employment increased by 16,000 with gains spread across a number of industries. The increase in employment pushed down the unemployment rate from 5.7% to 5.3%.

Employment edged up 13,000 in Ontario with gains in manufacturing and health care and social assistance. There were declines in management, administrative and other support services. The increase in employment in November, combined with a decline in the number of persons in search of work, pushed the unemployment rate from 7.2% to 6.7%.

Overall employment in Quebec increased slightly (+9,000), as a gain in full-time employment was partly offset by a decline in

Labour Force Survey, November 2002 Seasonally adjusted¹

	Labour force		Employment		Unemployment	
	'000	% change, previous month	'000	% change, previous month	'000	rate (%)
Canada	16,862.1	0.2	15,591.8	0.3	1,270.2	7.5
Newfoundland and Labrador	257.0	-0.6	209.5	-0.9	47.5	18.5
Prince Edward Island	76.4	-0.3	67.7	0.1	8.7	11.4
Nova Scotia	476.8	0.7	431.6	0.7	45.2	9.5
New Brunswick	389.3	0.1	349.2	0.7	40.1	10.3
Quebec	3,965.4	0.8	3,623.7	0.3	341.7	8.6
Ontario	6,595.6	-0.3	6,152.3	0.2	443.4	6.7
Manitoba	602.6	0.3	569.9	0.2	32.7	5.4
Saskatchewan	522.1	0.4	491.7	0.4	30.4	5.8
Alberta	1,794.0	0.5	1,698.9	0.9	95.1	5.3
British Columbia	2,182.8	0.1	1,997.3	-0.1	185.6	8.5

¹ Data are for both sexes aged 15 and over.

part-time. The unemployment rate rose from 8.1% to 8.6%, as more people entered the labour force in search of work.

Employment rose 3,000 in Nova Scotia and is now 1.0% above the level at the end of 2001. The unemployment rate was unchanged at 9.5%, as the gain in employment was matched by an increase in labour force participation.

In New Brunswick, employment edged up 2,000, bringing gains so far in 2002 to 12,000 (+3.6%). The unemployment rate declined 0.5 percentage points to 10.3%. There was little change in employment for the other provinces in November.

A more detailed summary, *Labour force information*, is now available for the week ending November 16 (Internet: 71-001-XIE, \$8/\$78). For general information, contact Client Services (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.)

Vista on the agri-good industry and the farm community

This issue of *Vista on the agri-food industry and the farm community* contains an article entitled "Genetically modified crops: Steady growth in Ontario and Quebec."

Since their introduction in the mid-1990s, genetically modified seeds have become increasingly popular among eastern Canadian corn and soybean producers, who have used them to limit insect damage to crops, or to allow their crops to resist herbicides that would normally kill them. Data clearly show that seeded area, the number of producers and the production of genetically modified soybeans and corn are on the rise in both Quebec and Ontario.

Vista on the agri-food industry and the farm community (21-004-XIE, free) is now available on Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca). For more information, contact Martin Beaulieu (613-951-6357), Agriculture Division.

Immigrants transforming language landscape

Canada is becoming more and more a multilingual society in the wake of growing numbers of immigrants whose mother tongue is neither English nor French, according to new data from the 2001 Census.

Canadians reported more than 100 languages in completing the census question on mother tongue. (Mother tongue is defined as the first language a person learned at home in childhood and still understood at the time of the census.)

In 2001, almost 5,335,000 individuals, about one out of every six people, were allophones. That is, they reported having a mother tongue other than English or French. This was up 12.5% from 1996, three times the growth rate of 4.0% for the population as a whole.

The census reaffirmed the position of Chinese as Canada's third most common mother tongue. Almost 872,400 people reported Chinese as their mother tongue, up 17.9% from 1996. They accounted for 2.9% of the total population of Canada, compared with 2.6% five years earlier.

Italian remained in fourth place, and German fifth, although their numbers declined. Punjabi moved into sixth, and Spanish slipped to seventh.

The census showed that nine out of 10 people speak English or French most often at home.

The proportion of the population that spoke French most often at home, 22.0%, was slightly lower than the 22.9% who reported it as their mother tongue.

The proportion of the population that spoke English most often at home, 67.5%, was appreciably higher than the proportion whose mother tongue was English (59.1%).

Only 10.5% of the population spoke a non-official language most often at home, far lower than the 18.0% who reported a non-official language as their mother tongue.

Just over 5.2 million people reported that they were bilingual, compared with more than 4.8 million five years earlier, an 8.1% increase. In 2001, these individuals represented 17.7% of the population, up from 17.0% in 1996.

Nationally, 43.4% of francophones reported that they were bilingual, compared with 9.0% of anglophones.

Outside Quebec, francophones accounted for 4.4% of the population in 2001, virtually the same as the level of 4.5% in 1996. The francophone population reached 980,300 in 2001, an increase of just over 10,000 from five years ago.

Inside Quebec, the decline in the anglophone population accelerated. The province's population reporting English as a mother tongue fell by almost 30,500 to 591,400. The bulk of this decrease was due to net outflows from Quebec to other provinces.

Between 1996 and 2001, about 53,300 anglophones left Quebec, but only 24,100 settled there, for a net loss of 29,200. Net outflows of anglophones from Quebec to other provinces and territories during the previous decade had been much lower.

About 10.5% of the population in Quebec spoke English most often at home in 2001. While this was higher than the proportion of 8.3% who reported it as their mother tongue, the proportion using English as their home language continued to shrink.

In New Brunswick, the census showed that in 2001, 10.5% of francophones used English most often at home, up from 9.7% in 1996. However, new data from the census showed that about half (48.4%) of them used French on a regular basis. In other words, the fact that they used English most often at home did not necessarily mean that they had abandoned the use of French.

For more information, contact Media Relations (613-951-4636), Communications Division.

Wage progression of less skilled workers

Less skilled workers could substantially improve their prospect of earnings by staying at their jobs for certain periods of time, according to a new study.

The study, based on data for 1993 to 1998 from the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics, defines less skilled workers as those who had acquired high school or lower education by 1993 and made no further advance thereafter.

For men or women, there was a payoff for a less skilled worker who worked for an additional year on his or her current job. For example, by staying on a job for five consecutive years, the hourly wage rate would grow on average 4.5% a year for a less skilled man, and about 4.0% for a less skilled woman. These gains were only slightly lower than what their skilled counterparts would have received if they had also stuck to the same jobs during these five years.

The research paper *Wage progression of less skilled workers in Canada: Evidence from the SLID, 1993-1998*, (11F0019MIE, no. 194, free) is now available on Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca). For more information, contact René Morissette (613-951-3608), Business and Labour Market Analysis Division.

Alberta replaces B.C. as destination for job-seekers

Canadians who pulled up stakes and changed addresses between 1996 and 2001 headed overwhelmingly to the booming, oil-rich province of Alberta, according to new data from the 2001 Census.

For the first time in 15 years, British Columbia was replaced as the destination of choice for job-seekers, who headed instead in droves to Alberta.

By far, the largest net gain from migration was the 119,400 that occurred in Alberta. Some 242,200 people moved into Alberta, and 122,800 moved out. Individuals aged 15 to 29 represented 36% of the total in-flow into Alberta.

Overall, from 1996 to 2001, about 11,710,300 individuals aged five and over changed residence in Canada. The rate at which Canada's population moved during this five-year period, while significant, declined to its lowest level in more than two decades.

Movers represented 41.9% of the total population aged five and over in 2001, down from 43.3% in 1996, and down sharply from 46.7% in 1991.

Only three provinces — Prince Edward Island, Ontario and Alberta — gained more population than they lost through interprovincial migration between 1996 and 2001. The remainder, including the three territories, lost more people than they gained.

Alberta's net gain through internal migration represented 4.7% of its population. In contrast, Ontario's net gain of 51,900 represented only 0.5% of its population, while Prince Edward Island's net gain of 135 accounted for 0.1% of its population.

On the other hand, there was a marked reversal in British Columbia's situation. Between 1996 and 2001, British Columbia lost 23,600 more people than it gained. During the previous five-year period, it had a record net inflow of 150,000 people.

Ontario's net gain of 51,900 more than offset a net loss of over 47,000 observed during the previous five-year period. This was largely attributable to Ontario's strong economic growth.

Newfoundland and Labrador recorded its largest net loss in two decades. The province lost almost 31,100 people more than it gained from 1996 to 2001. This was the difference between the 47,100 people who moved out and the 16,000 who moved in.

This net loss was larger than the net loss of more than 23,200 during the previous five-year period. Newfoundland and Labrador has shown a net loss in every census since 1981.

Saskatchewan's net loss of about 24,900 in migratory exchanges with the rest of the country represented 2.7% of its population aged five and over, the second strongest rate among the provinces. Roughly 67,500 people moved out of the province between 1996 and 2001, while 42,600 moved in.

For more information, contact Media Relations (613-951-4636), Communications Division.

Environmental expenditures and practices by businesses

Canadian companies spent almost \$2.2 billion on capital projects for environmental protection in 2000, up 25.6% from 1998.

Companies spent \$943.6 million on pollution prevention equipment — that is, processes that eliminate or prevent the creation of pollution in the production cycle — up 45.5% from 1998. In addition, they spent \$881.3 million on pollution abatement and control equipment or processes, up 28.7%. These treat pollution and wastes after they have been created.

Across all industry groups, 75% of establishments reported using at least one environmental management practice in 2000. The most widely reported practice was the use of an environmental management system, reported by 58% of firms. About 11% of firms have implemented ISO 14000 certification.

A detailed analytical report of the 2000 estimates will be available in early 2003 on Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca). For more information, contact the information officer (613-951-0297; environ@statcan.ca), Environment Accounts and Statistics Division.

Building permits equal record high

Signs of a slowdown on construction sites are nowhere to be seen, as the value of construction intentions, measured by building permits, equalled July's record high in October. The value of building permits totalled \$4.0 billion, up 6.9% from September. The high construction intentions in the residential sector were mainly responsible for this peak.

Municipalities issued \$2.6 billion in residential permits in October, up 4.8% from September. This tremendous level was largely the result of a record high in the construction intentions for single-family dwellings. Nearly 19,000 new dwelling units were authorized in October alone.

The value of single-family permits reached a record \$1.9 billion in October, up 5.0% from September, and a third consecutive monthly increase. This level is \$63 million higher than the previous record set in January 2002. Construction intentions for multi-family dwellings were also on the rise.

Continued strength in the Canadian labour market throughout 2002, low mortgage rates, rising disposable incomes and low vacancy rates for apartments were the factors that positively affected the housing market and pushed consumers toward the new home market.

Among the provinces, the largest increases were in Ontario (+6.5% to \$1.1 billion) and Alberta (+13.0% to \$412 million). Quebec was the only province to show a retreat, halting a streak of five consecutive gains.

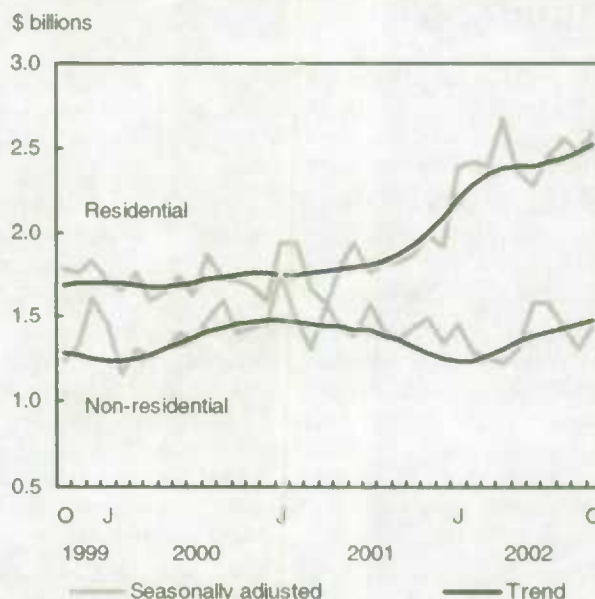
Halting two consecutive monthly declines, the value of non-residential permits totalled \$1.4 billion in October, up 10.9% from September. A huge gain in the institutional component was the driving force behind this advance.

Institutional intentions increased 36.0% to \$529 million after two straight monthly decreases. Educational projects in the Toronto area led Ontario to the greatest increase (in dollar terms) among the provinces.

After two monthly declines, the value of industrial permits increased 4.4% to \$275 million because of an advance in the manufacturing category.

After reaching a high level in June, the commercial component recorded four consecutive monthly declines. The commercial component was pushed down in October (-1.4%) by the trade and services and warehouse categories.

Value of building permits



Seventeen of the 28 census metropolitan areas recorded monthly increases in the value of non-residential permits. By far, the largest increase occurred in Toronto, where intentions jumped in the educational category. Edmonton recorded the strongest decrease as a result of a decline in the commercial component.

Among the provinces, Ontario recorded the largest increase in the non-residential sector (+54.0% to \$736 million), after three consecutive monthly declines. All three components showed gains, especially the institutional component.

After recording the largest growth in September, Alberta recorded the most significant decrease (-49.5% to \$138 million), the result of declines in the three non-residential components.

*The October 2002 issue of **Building permits** (Internet: 64-001-XIE, \$14/\$145) is now available. To order data, contact Vere Clarke (613-951-6556 or 1-800-579-8533; clarver@statcan.ca). For more information, contact Étienne Saint-Pierre (613-951-2025; saineti@statcan.ca), Investment and Capital Stock Division.*

Literacy and literacy training of francophones in Canada

The analytical report *Literacy and literacy training of francophones in Canada* uses data from the 1994 International Adult Literacy Survey to paint a general picture of francophones' literacy in Canada, and examines literacy in the context of language transfers to English.

It also examines literacy training of francophones, and sorts out the impact of various social and cultural factors on literacy. Finally, the report suggests a number of avenues that deserve attention with regards to the analysis of data from the forthcoming International Adult Literacy and Skills Survey, which will take place in 2003.

*The monograph **Literacy and literacy training of francophones in Canada** (89-552-MIE, no. 10, free) is now available on Statistics Canada's website (www.statcan.ca). For more information, contact Client Services (1-800-307-3382; 613-951-7608; educationstats@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.*

Attendance up at heritage institutions

Canada's 2,600 heritage institutions rode a wave of expanding memberships, increasing attendance, surging earned revenue and higher government grants in 1999, making it one of their best years ever.

Attendance reached 118.3 million visits and operating revenues hit almost \$1.5 billion, up 25% from 1993. Operating revenues reached almost \$1.5 billion, up 12% from 1997. Operating expenditures rose 10% from 1997 to just over \$1.3 billion.

The source of operating revenue for heritage institutions has shifted gradually from governments to the visiting public. For every \$100 in revenue in 1999, heritage institutions received roughly \$59 from governments and \$33 from the public in the form of memberships, admissions and over-the-counter sales. In 1993, \$71 came from governments and only \$23 from the visiting public. Private donors accounted for about \$8 out of every \$100 in revenue in 1999, compared with just under \$6 in 1993.

Heritage institutions reported earned operating revenues of more than \$481.5 million in 1999, up 22% from 1997. The driving force in the jump was revenue from over-the-counter sales in gift shops, cafeterias and other outlets. These sales hit almost \$308.5 million in 1999, up 30% from 1997.

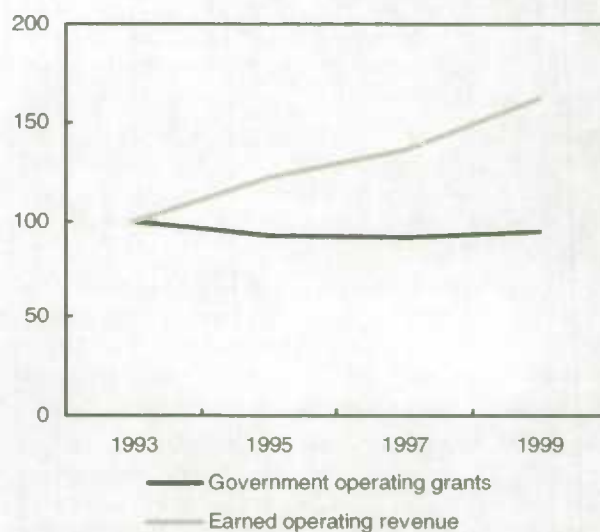
Grants and subsidies from all levels of government climbed almost 6% from 1997 to \$862.7 million in 1999. The average grants and subsidies per institution were \$331,300, up 3% from 1997.

Museums are one of the most popular types of heritage institutions. Attendance at museums rose slightly to 26.5 million visits from 26.2 million in 1997. Even so, average attendance dropped slightly to 18,900 per institution from 19,100 in 1997. Admission fees at museums have risen over the years, with the average fees for adults rising 12% from 1997.

Nature parks in Canada reported record earnings, mostly from admissions and sales at the counters. Earned revenue reached

Government operating grants and earned operating revenue

(\$'000), indexed and in constant dollars (1992=100)



\$127.3 million in 1999 averaging \$758,000 per institution, up from \$611,000 per institution in 1997. Earned revenue's share of total operating revenue for nature parks climbed to 38% from 35% in 1997. The various levels of government increased their financial support of nature parks to \$207.5 million in 1999, averaging \$1,235,000 per institution compared with \$1,109,000 in 1997.

Data tables are available in the publication *Heritage institutions* (paper: 87F0002XPE, \$50). For general information, contact Client Services (1-800-307-3382; cult.tourstats@statcan.ca). For analytical information, contact Fidel Ifedi (613-951-1569; fax: 613-951-1333; fidel.ifedi@statcan.ca), Culture, Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

Medical Devices Industry Survey

Firms engaged in medical devices production reported net revenues of \$2.6 billion in 2000, according to the results of the Medical Devices Industry Survey. In 2000, the roughly 500 medical devices-related firms employed about 22,000 people, including about 14,800 medical devices-related manufacturing staff and 7,200 employees with other medical devices-related duties.

The firms invested about \$125 million in research and development in 2000. This includes \$112.6 million of investment financed solely by the firms.

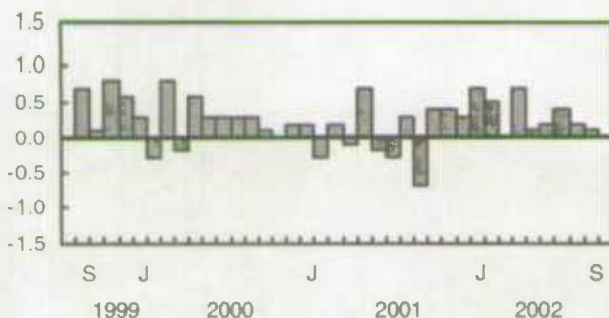
The Medical Devices Industry Survey was an activity-based survey conducted for the reference year 2000 on a voluntary basis on behalf of Industry Canada and Health Canada. Its aim was to produce new statistical information on the research and development, intellectual property, employment, revenues, electronic commerce and technology, and sources of capital of the firms engaged in medical devices production.

For more information, contact Yves Gauthier (613-951-0188; yves.gauthier@statcan.ca), Small Business and Special Surveys Division.

Current trends

Gross domestic product

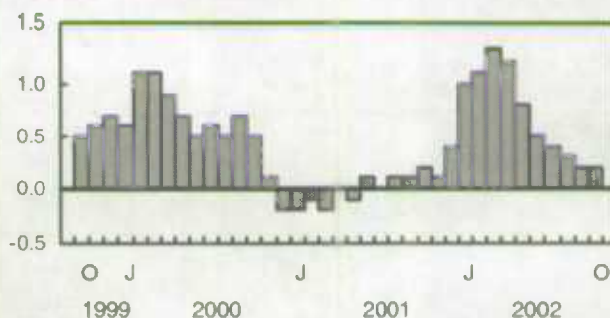
% change, previous month



Total economic activity edged up 0.1% in September, following a 0.2% increase in August.

Composite Index

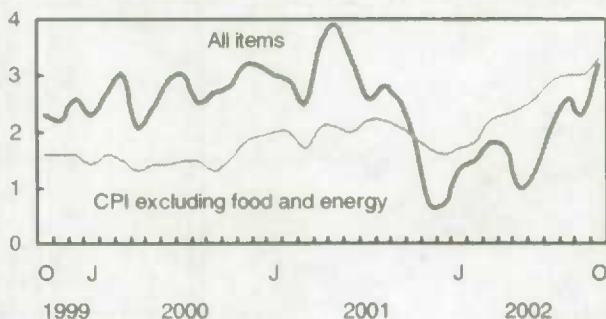
% change, previous month



Growth in the leading indicator was unchanged at 0.2% in October. Six of the ten components were up, led by housing.

Consumer Price Index

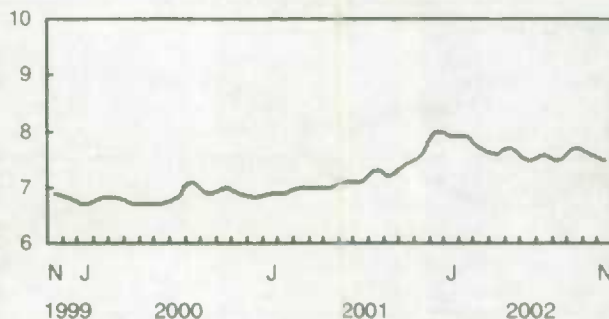
% change, previous year



Consumer prices for goods and services were 3.2% higher in October than they were a year earlier. Excluding food and energy, prices rose 3.3%.

Unemployment rate

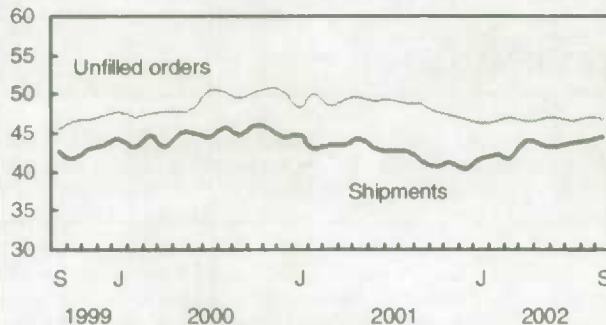
%



In November, the unemployment rate fell 0.1 percentage points to 7.5%.

Manufacturing

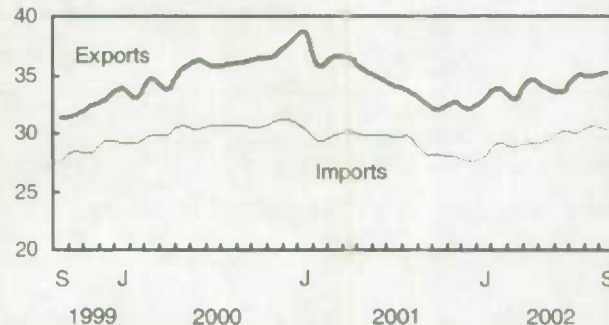
\$ billions



Manufacturers' shipments rose 1.2% in September to \$44.5 billion. The backlog of unfilled orders declined 0.9% to \$46.7 billion.

Merchandise trade

\$ billions



In September, the value of merchandise exports increased 0.8% to \$35.2 billion. Imports fell 1.3% to \$30.3 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 (\$ billions, 1997) ¹	September	980.7	0.1%	4.0%
Composite Index (1992=100)	October	179.3	0.2%	7.6%
Operating profits of enterprises (\$ billions)	Q3 2002	40.3	2.6%	12.9%
Capacity utilization rate (%) ²	Q2 2002	83.2	1.3†	-0.1†
DOMESTIC DEMAND				
Retail trade (\$ billions)	September	25.6	-0.5%	7.7%
New motor vehicle sales (thousands of units)	October*	148.6	2.0%	10.6%
Wholesale trade (\$ billions)	September	35.2	0.0%	6.9%
LABOUR				
Employment (millions)	November*	15.6	0.3%	3.2%
Unemployment rate (%)	November*	7.5	-0.1†	-0.1†
Participation rate (%)	November*	67.3	0.1†	1.2†
Average weekly earnings (\$)	September	679.61	0.15%	1.66%
Help-wanted Index (1996=100)	November	118.2	-2.2%	-8.6%
Regular Employment Insurance beneficiaries (in thousands)	September	553.3	-0.8%	3.0%
INTERNATIONAL TRADE				
Merchandise exports (\$ billions)	September	35.2	0.8%	7.5%
Merchandise imports (\$ billions)	September	30.3	-1.3%	6.8%
Merchandise trade balance (all figures in \$ billions)	September	4.9	0.7	0.5
MANUFACTURING				
Shipments (\$ billions)	September	44.5	1.2%	7.4%
New orders (\$ billions)	September	44.1	-1.2%	6.7%
Unfilled orders (\$ billions)	September	46.7	-0.9%	-4.2%
Inventory/shipments ratio	September	1.41	-0.01	-0.13
PRICES				
Consumer Price Index (1992=100)	October	120.5	0.3%	3.2%
Industrial Product Price Index (1997=100)	October	109.0	0.4%	2.4%
Raw Materials Price Index (1997=100)	October	116.7	-0.1%	11.1%
New Housing Price Index (1992=100)	October*	111.8	0.5%	4.7%

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 Industry Classification System (NAICS), which has replaced the 1980 Standard Industrial Classification.

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A weekly review

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Products released from December 5 to 11, 2002

SUBJECT AREA Title of product	Period	Catalogue number	Price (\$) (issue/subscription)
AGRICULTURE			
Cattle statistics	2000-2002	23-012-XIE	free
Cereals and oilseeds review	September 2002	22-007-XIB	11/112
Cereals and oilseeds review	September 2002	22-007-XPB	15/149
November estimate of production of principal field crops	2002	22-002-XIB	11/66
November estimate of production of principal field crops	2002	22-002-XPB	15/88
Vista on the agri-food industry and the farm community	December 2002	21-004-XIE	free
ANALYTICAL STUDIES			
Do the falling earnings of immigrants apply to self-employed immigrants?		11F0019MIE2002195	free
Wage progression of less skilled workers in Canada: Evidence from the SLID	1993-1998	11F0019MIE2002194	free
HEALTH STATISTICS			
How healthy are Canadians?	2002	82-003-SPE	20
INCOME STATISTICS			
Household expenditures research papers series	2002	62F0026MIE	free
Detailed average household expenditure for Canada, provinces/territories and selected metropolitan areas	2001	62F0031XDB	125
Detailed average household expenditure by household income quintile for Canada and provinces	2001	62F0032XDB	125
Detailed average household expenditure by housing tenure for Canada	2001	62F0033XDB	125
Detailed average household expenditure by housing tenure for Canada	2001	62F0033XDB	125
Detailed average household expenditure by household type for Canada	2001	62F0034XDB	125
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