



The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, May 13, 1994

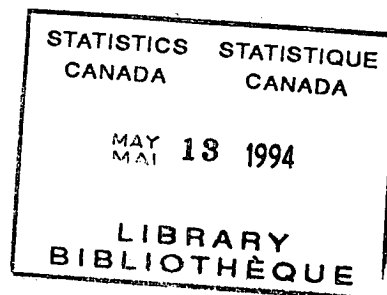
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MAJOR RELEASE

- **Travel between Canada and other countries, March 1994** 2
Residents of the United States continued to visit Canada in increasing numbers. They recorded 1.1 million overnight trips in March 1994, up 3.8% from February.

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MAJOR RELEASE

Travel between Canada and other countries

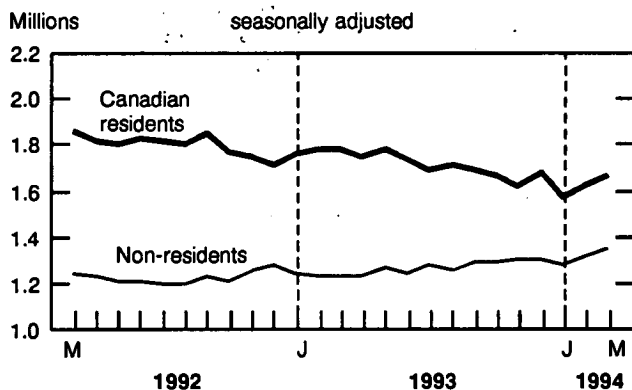
March 1994

Trips to Canada of one or more nights have been increasing gradually over the past year. Residents of the United States crossed the border in greater numbers in March, extending the uptrend evident since May 1993. Meanwhile, same-day car trips by Canadian residents to the United States, a key indicator of cross-border shopping, remained at their lowest level since April 1989.

Overnight visits to Canada Increasing

Overnight travel into Canada increased 2.7% in March to 1.3 million trips (seasonally adjusted). This type of travel was relatively constant between late 1986 and early 1993, but it has been inching upward since April 1993.

Trips of one or more nights between Canada and other countries



A key factor in this uptrend of visitors to Canada has been the weakening Canadian dollar, which in March was at its lowest value (US 73 cents) since December 1986 (US 72 cents).

Residents of the United States made 1.1 million trips (seasonally adjusted) of one or more nights to Canada in March, a 3.8% increase from February, and significantly above the March 1993 level.

Note to users

Month-to-month comparisons in international travel are made using data that have been seasonally adjusted for variations that repeat annually and for variability caused by the different volumes of travellers associated with different days of the week.

Year-over-year comparisons are made using unadjusted data, which are the actual traffic counts.

Data from the international travel survey for the first nine months of 1993 indicate that 87.0% of Canadians shopped in the United States during same-day car trips.

Overnight visitors from the United States chose car and plane travel more frequently in March 1994, up 19.2% and 6.5% respectively from March 1993. Meanwhile, comparable bus travel dropped 17.9%.

Trips of one or more nights to Canada by residents of overseas countries decreased 1.1% from February, to 288,000; however, the trend remains upward. Increases from March 1993 were recorded for overnight visits from all continents, ranging from 8.8% for Europe to 39.3% for North America. Visits from a number of countries were up substantially from March 1993, including Mexico (+69.6% to 5,000), Japan (+20.0% to 27,000) and Germany (+19.5% to 17,000).

Estimated trips to Canada of one or more nights

Country of residence	First quarter 1994P	First quarter 1993 to First quarter 1994P
	'000	% change
unadjusted		
Top 10 countries		
United States	1,451	+ 4.4
Japan	69	+ 10.0
United Kingdom	58	+ 6.8
Germany	37	+ 16.6
France	35	+ 13.8
Hong Kong	22	+ 5.9
Australia	15	+ 18.6
Mexico	10	+ 31.4
Italy	9	- 8.6
Switzerland	8	+ 10.3

P Preliminary figures.

The increase in overnight visits by residents of Japan was especially significant, since Japanese visitors traditionally have recorded the highest spending per night among all visitors to Canada (\$174 per visit-night in 1992).

During the first quarter of 1994, residents of the United States and other countries made 1.8 million trips of one or more nights to Canada, up 5.3% from the first quarter of 1993.

Canadian travel abroad up from February

Overall, Canadians made more trips abroad of one or more nights in March, despite the weakening Canadian dollar. In terms of all modes of travel, Canadians' trips to all countries of one or more nights increased 2.7% from February, to 1.6 million (seasonally adjusted).

Canadians made 1.4 million trips of one or more nights (seasonally adjusted) to the United States, including all modes of transportation, up 2.9% from February. Overnight travel by Canadian residents to the United States has been generally decreasing since January 1992. Canadians made 928,000 car trips of one or more nights to the United States in March 1994, an increase of 2.5% compared to February, although the level remained well below the March 1993 figure.

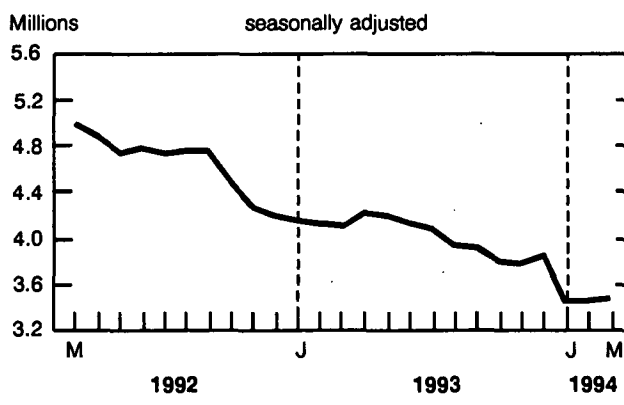
Trips of one or more nights to all other countries increased 1.3% from February, to 288,000, continuing the long-term uptrend in overseas travel by Canadians.

Same-day car trips to the United States stabilize

Canadian residents made 3.4 million same-day car trips (seasonally adjusted) to the United States in March, up 0.4% from February but well below the March 1993 figure.

Same-day car trips by Canadians across the border have been declining steadily since February 1992, after peaking at 5.3 million (seasonally adjusted) in November 1991. Since the beginning of the year, figures have been relatively stable at the lowest seasonally adjusted monthly levels since April 1989.

Same-day car trips by Canadian residents to the United States



A major factor in the downtrend in same-day cross-border car trips by Canadians has been the weakening Canadian dollar, which has fallen to about US 73 cents, from more than US 88 cents in November 1991. Another factor is the rising price of gasoline in the United States, which, combined with the falling Canadian dollar, has narrowed the gap between Canadian and U.S. gas prices to less than CDN 12 cents per litre.

Same-day car trips by Canadian residents to the United States

Province of re-entry	March 1994 ^P	March 1993 to March 1994 ^P
	'000	% change
	unadjusted	
New Brunswick	484	-21.5
Quebec	286	-18.3
Ontario	1,503	-16.0
Manitoba	59	-12.2
Saskatchewan	26	-27.4
Alberta	14	-15.1
British Columbia	865	-15.4
Yukon	1	-42.4
Canada	3,238	-17.0

^P Preliminary figures.

Unadjusted, same-day car trips by Canadians to the United States dropped 17.0% from March 1993, to 3.2 million. All provinces recorded double-digit, year-over-year decreases in March 1994. At the four land-crossings in the Niagara Peninsula (Ontario region), same-day cross-border car trips by Canadian residents totalled 523,000, down 21.5% from March 1993.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 2661-2697.

The March 1994 issue of *Touriscope: international travel—advance information* (66-001P, \$7/\$70) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Ruth McMillan (613-951-1791), International Travel Section, Education, Culture and Tourism Division.

Travel between Canada and other countries

	January 1994 ^r	February 1994 ^r	March 1994 ^p	February 1994 to March 1994 ^p
	'000			% change
	seasonally adjusted			
Canadian trips abroad				
Car trips to the United States				
Same-day	3,436	3,444	3,458	0.4
One or more nights	896	906	928	2.5
Total trips, one or more nights				
United States ¹	1,286	1,327	1,366	2.9
Other countries	277	285	288	1.3
Travel to Canada				
Car trips from United States				
Same-day	1,481	1,582	1,615	2.1
One or more nights	703	701	729	3.9
Total trips, one or more nights				
United States ¹	1,007	1,018	1,057	3.8
Other countries ²	266	291	288	-1.1
	March 1994 ^p	March 1993 to March 1994 ^p	January to March 1994 ^p	January-March 1993 to January- March 1994 ^p
	'000	% change	'000	% change
	unadjusted			
Canadian trips abroad				
Car trips to the United States				
Same-day	3,238	-17.0	8,775	-17.9
One or more nights	879	-13.5	1,880	-14.8
Total trips, one or more nights				
United States ¹	1,436	-9.6	3,292	-11.2
Other countries	376	7.6	1,080	4.9
Travel to Canada				
Car trips from United States				
Same-day	1,287	7.7	3,436	-0.6
One or more nights	371	19.2	947	5.1
Total trips, one or more nights				
United States ¹	563	13.4	1,451	4.4
Other countries ²	149	13.2	382	8.8

¹ Estimates for the United States include counts of car and bus, and estimated numbers for plane, train, boat and other methods.

² Figures for "Other countries" exclude same-day entries by land only, via the United States.

^p Preliminary figures.

^r Revised figures.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fabricated structural steel price indexes

First quarter 1994

Fabricated structural steel-in-place price indexes for the first quarter of 1994 are now available. These indexes, at a Canada level, show an increase of 0.6% from the fourth quarter of 1993 and an increase of 2.3% from the first quarter of 1993.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 2044.

The first quarter 1994 issue of *Construction price statistics* (62-007, \$19/\$76) will be available in June. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Paul-Roméo Danis (613-951-3350, fax: 613-951-2848), Information and Current Analysis Unit, Prices Division. ■

Plastic film and bags

First quarter 1994

Data on plastic film and bags for the first quarter of 1994 are now available.

Shipments of plastic film and bags manufactured from resin (47-007, \$8/\$32) will be available later.

For further information on this release, contact Raj Sehdev (613-951-3513), Industry Division. ■

Railway carloadings

March 1994

Revenue-freight loaded by railways in Canada totalled 22.1 million tonnes in March 1994, an 11.5% increase from March 1993. The carriers received an additional 1.5 million tonnes from U.S. connections during March.

Total loadings from January to March 1994, increased 3.4% from the year-earlier period. Receipts from U.S. connections increased 19.1% during the same period.

All 1993 figures have been revised.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 1431.

The March 1994 issue of *Railway carloadings* (52-001, \$10/\$100) will be released next week.

For further information on this release, contact Angus MacLean (613-951-2528), Transportation Division. ■

Dairy review

March 1994

Creamery butter production totalled 8 900 tonnes in March 1994, a 9.9% increase from a year earlier. Cheddar cheese production amounted to 8 500 tonnes, a 6.3% increase from March 1993.

An estimated 530 000 kilolitres of milk were sold off farms for all purposes in February 1994, a 3.1% increase from February 1993. This brought the total estimate of milk sold off farms during the first two months of 1994 to 1 108 000 kilolitres, a 2.9% increase from the year-earlier period.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 3428, 5632-5638, 5650-5661, 5664-5667 and 5673.

The March 1994 issue of *The dairy review* (23-001, \$14/\$138) will be released on May 26. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Robert Freeman (613-951-2508), Agriculture Division. ■

Egg production

March 1994

Egg production in March 1994 totalled 40.5 million dozen, a 1.4% increase from March 1993. The average number of layers increased by 1.2%, while the number of eggs per 100 layers increased to 2,324, from 2,321.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1145, 1146 and 5689-5691.

To order *Production and stocks of eggs and poultry* (\$115/year), contact Julie Gordon (613-951-5039).

For further information on this release, contact Jacqueline LeBlanc (613-951-8715), Livestock and Animal Products Section, Agriculture Division. ■

Oils and fats

March 1994

Production of all types of deodorized oils in March 1994 totalled 75 766 tonnes, up 11.3% from 68 100 tonnes in February 1994. At the end of March 1994, year-to-date production totalled 211 926 tonnes, a 10.2% increase from 192 359 tonnes a year earlier.

Manufacturers' packaged sales of shortening totalled 11 375 tonnes in March 1994, up from 9 540 tonnes the previous month. At the end of March 1994, year-to-date sales totalled 30 874 tonnes, compared with 29 517 tonnes a year earlier.

Sales of packaged salad oil totalled 7 554 tonnes in March 1994, up from 5 642 tonnes the previous month. Year-to-date sales at the end of March 1994 totalled 18 879 tonnes, compared with 19 265 tonnes a year earlier.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 184.

The March 1994 issue of *Oils and fats* (32-006, \$6/\$60) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511), Industry Division.

Processed fruits and vegetables

March 1994

Data on processed fruits and vegetables for March 1994 are now available.

Canned and frozen fruits and vegetables—monthly (32-011, \$6/\$60) will be available shortly. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Peter Zylstra (613-951-3511), Industry Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Pulpwood and wood residue statistics, March 1994.
Catalogue number 25-001
(Canada: \$7/\$70; United States: US\$8/US\$80; other countries: US\$10/US\$100).

Factory sales of electric storage batteries, March 1994.
Catalogue number 43-005
(Canada: \$6/\$60; United States: US\$7/US\$70; other countries: US\$8/US\$80).

Energy statistics handbook, May 1994.
Catalogue number 57-601
(Canada: \$330; United States: US\$400; other countries: US\$460).

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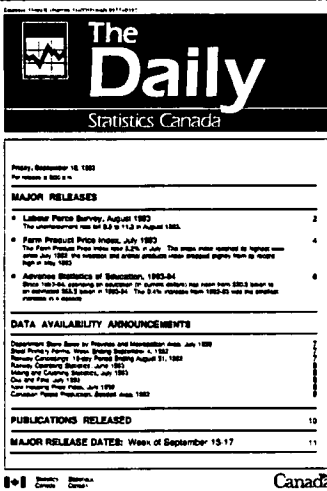
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The Daily, May 13, 1994

MAJOR RELEASE DATES

Week of May 16-20
(Release dates are subject to change)

Release date	Title	Reference period
May		
16	New motor vehicle sales	March 1994
17	Monthly survey of manufacturing	March 1994
17	Composite Index	April 1994
18	Consumer price index (CPI)	April 1994
18	Department store sales advance release	April 1994
19	Canadian international trade	March 1994
19	Retail trade	March 1994
20	Wholesale trade	March 1994