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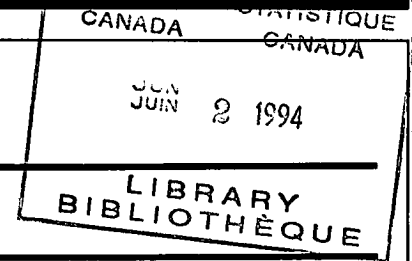


The Daily

Statistics Canada

Thursday, June 2, 1994

For release at 8:30 a.m.



MAJOR RELEASES

- **Industrial capacity utilization rates, first quarter 1994** 2
Capacity utilization in the non-farm goods-producing industries edged up 0.1% in the first quarter to 79.4, maintaining for a second consecutive quarter a level not reached since 1991. However, the first-quarter level was still well below the high of 86.8% recorded in late 1987 and early 1988.
- **Crude oil and natural gas, March 1994** 4
Strong exports to the United States along with higher demand by Canadian refineries led to a 4.1% rise from March 1993 in crude oil production. Natural gas production moderated considerably in March 1994, rising 1.4% from March 1993.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Crushing statistics, April 1994	6
Steel primary forms, week ending May 28, 1994	6
Specified domestic electrical appliances, April 1994	6
Cement, April 1994	6

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

7



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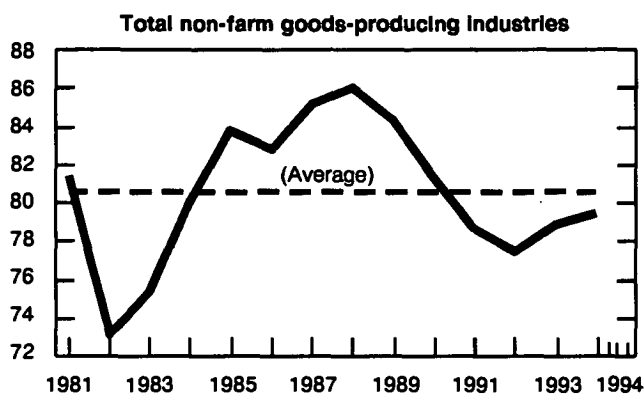
MAJOR RELEASES

Industrial capacity utilization rates

First quarter 1994

Capacity utilization in the non-farm goods-producing industries edged up 0.1% in the first quarter to 79.4, maintaining for a second consecutive quarter a level not reached since 1991. However, the first-quarter level was still well below the high of 86.8% recorded in late 1987 and early 1988.

Industrial capacity utilization rates



Capacity utilization in manufacturing industries decreased a slight 0.1%, and was below the average for non-farm goods-producing industries. But the changes experienced in the 22 manufacturing groups were evenly split between increases and decreases.

In durable goods manufacturing, the electrical and electronic products industries showed the largest increase; export demand for office machinery and communications equipment raised the rate by 5.9%. The rate for primary metals declined 3.0% because of reductions in non-ferrous smelting and refining. In machinery industries, capacity utilization fell 2.7% as output declined after a strong performance in the fourth quarter of 1993. Plant shutdowns during the first quarter of 1994 reduced capacity utilization in the transportation equipment industries by 1.9%. Lower levels of non-residential building activity caused a 1.9% decline in capacity utilization in the non-metallic mineral products industries.

Note to users

The capacity utilization rate for an industry is the ratio of its actual output to its estimated potential output. The level is only a statistical approximation and should be viewed as such. The degree of pressure exerted on the production facilities of an industry can be assessed by comparing the capacity utilization rate to its long-term average.

In non-durable goods manufacturing, the most notable increase occurred in refined petroleum and coal products (+5.2%). Strong exports caused a 4.6% increase in capacity utilization in the rubber products industries. Capacity utilization rates were higher in the tobacco products (+7.7%) and leather (+4.9%) industries.

Capacity utilization in mining, quarrying and oil wells declined 2.2% to 86.1. Low international prices for non-ferrous metals led to plant shutdowns and reduced production, lowering capacity utilization in mining and quarrying by 5.5%. The rate for crude petroleum and natural gas industries remained unchanged.

Electric power and gas distribution industries increased capacity utilization by 3.3% to 81.8. Severe winter temperatures increased domestic demand during the first quarter of 1994. The rate for electric power rose 3.4%, while the rate for gas distribution rose 3.1%.

In the logging and forestry industries, capacity utilization advanced 0.9% to 89.9, reflecting higher production. The rate for construction industries rose 0.8% to 73.6 because of increased engineering construction activity.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 3140.

For further information on this release, contact Susanna Wood (613-951-0655) or Richard Landry (613-951-2579), Investment and Capital Stock Division. □

Industrial capacity utilization rates

	First quarter 1993	Fourth quarter 1993	First quarter 1994	First quarter 1993 to First quarter 1994	Fourth quarter 1993 to First quarter 1994
	% change				
Total non-farm goods-producing industries	78.4	79.3	79.4	1.3	0.1
Logging and forestry industries	90.9	89.1	89.9	-1.1	0.9
Mining (including milling), quarrying and oil wells	83.6	88.0	86.1	3.0	-2.2
Mining (including milling) and quarrying	80.5	87.0	82.2	2.1	-5.5
Crude petroleum and natural gas	85.7	88.6	88.6	3.4	0.0
Manufacturing industries	77.9	79.3	79.2	1.7	-0.1
Durable goods	76.8	79.1	79.0	2.9	-0.1
Wood	86.9	90.1	90.3	3.9	0.2
Furniture and fixture	63.6	69.0	70.2	10.4	1.7
Primary metal	90.0	91.5	88.8	-1.3	-3.0
Fabricated metal products	67.5	73.7	75.0	11.1	1.8
Machinery	68.9	76.6	74.5	8.1	-2.7
Transportation equipment	77.2	75.6	74.2	-3.9	-1.9
Electrical and electronic products	76.4	79.7	84.4	10.5	5.9
Non-metallic mineral products	67.2	72.1	70.7	5.2	-1.9
Other manufacturing	74.6	75.3	73.4	-1.6	-2.5
Non-durable goods manufacturing	79.3	79.5	79.5	0.3	0.0
Food	75.0	76.0	74.2	-1.1	-2.4
Beverage	69.6	67.5	66.4	-4.6	-1.6
Tobacco products	88.6	66.5	71.6	4.4	7.7
Rubber products	88.6	88.4	92.5	4.4	4.6
Plastic products	76.7	81.5	83.5	8.9	2.5
Leather and allied products	60.5	68.7	72.1	19.2	4.9
Primary textile	83.3	83.9	84.7	1.7	1.0
Textile products	70.1	69.6	68.5	-2.3	-1.6
Clothing	72.5	72.4	72.3	-0.3	-0.1
Paper and allied products	90.7	88.9	88.7	-2.2	-0.2
Printing, publishing and allied	72.8	71.9	72.3	-0.7	0.6
Refined petroleum and coal products	89.7	89.7	94.4	5.2	5.2
Chemical and chemical products	84.9	86.2	85.6	0.8	-0.7
Construction industries	73.6	73.0	73.6	0.0	0.8
Electric power and gas distribution systems	82.4	79.2	81.8	-0.7	3.3
Electric power	82.7	79.5	82.2	-0.6	3.4
Gas distribution	80.3	76.9	79.3	-1.2	3.1
Special aggregates					
Intermediate goods manufacturing ¹	82.5	84.6	84.6	2.5	0.0
Final goods manufacturing ²	74.3	75.1	75.0	0.9	-0.1
Energy industries ³	84.0	82.1	84.2	0.2	2.6
Total non-farm goods excluding energy	77.2	78.4	78.1	1.2	-0.4

¹ Consists of the rubber products, plastic products, primary textiles, textile products, wood, paper and allied products, primary metals, fabricated metal products, non-metallic mineral products, petroleum and coal products, and chemicals and chemical products industries.

² These are the food, beverage, tobacco products, leather and allied products, clothing, furniture and fixtures, printing, publishing and allied products, machinery, transportation equipment, electrical and electronic products, and other manufacturing industries.

³ These are the crude petroleum and natural gas, refined petroleum and coal products, electric power and gas distribution systems and pipeline transport industries. Note that estimates of capacity utilization rates for the pipeline transport industries are not included in the calculation of the aggregate capacity utilization rate for the non-farm goods producing sector, since these industries belong to the services sector. ■

Crude oil and natural gas

March 1994 (preliminary)

Strong exports to the United States along with higher demand by Canadian refineries led to a 4.1% rise from March 1993 in crude oil production. Natural gas production moderated considerably in March 1994, rising 1.4% from March 1993. This slowdown was largely due to a 3.2% decline in domestic consumption of natural gas, caused by warmer temperatures in March 1994 compared with March 1993.

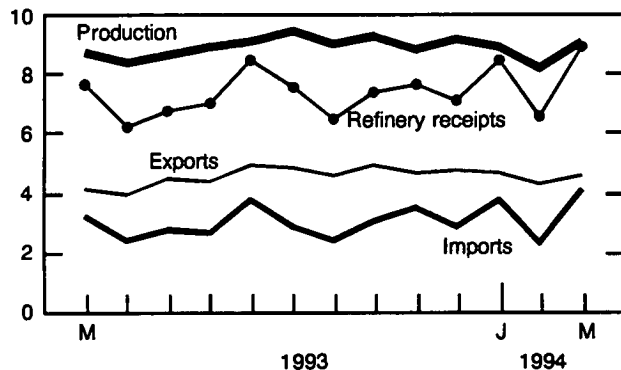
Crude oil production remained strong

Production of crude oil rose 4.1% in March 1994 from March 1993, to 9.1 million cubic metres. This was a somewhat lower growth rate than in January and February, but it was still in line with the 4.5% annual gain in 1993.

Crude oil exports were up 12.3% from March 1993, to 4.6 million cubic metres. Exports have been rising strongly, on a year-over-year basis, since May 1993.

Crude oil supply and disposition

Millions of cubic metres



Sharply higher imports of crude oil caused a 16.4% increase from March 1993 in refinery receipts. Imports and refinery receipts both declined in February 1994.

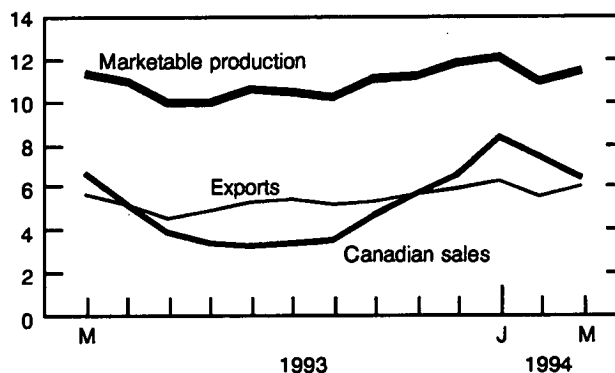
Production of refined petroleum products rose a healthy 6.0% from March 1993, with a significant portion going to foreign markets. In contrast, domestic demand for refined products was relatively weak, rising 0.5% from March 1993.

Natural gas production weakened

Production of natural gas products rose 1.4% from March 1993, to 11.5 billion cubic metres. This followed strong gains in January and February 1994.

Natural gas supply and disposition

Billions of cubic metres



Natural gas exports increased 6.9% from March 1993, to 5.9 billion cubic metres. Exports to the United States have been rising since early 1991, partly because of growing demand for Canadian natural gas by U.S. electric co-generation facilities.

Warmer temperatures in March 1994 compared with March 1993 led to a 3.2% decline in domestic sales of natural gas. Sales had increased substantially in January and February 1994 because of unseasonably cold temperatures.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 530 and 539.

The March 1994 issue of *Crude petroleum and natural gas production* (26-006, \$11/\$110) will be available the last week of June. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Gérard O'Connor (613-951-3562), Energy Section, Industry Division. □

Crude oil and natural gas

	March 1993	March 1994	March 1993 to March 1994	January 1993 to March 1993	January 1994 to March 1994	January- March 1993 to January- March 1994
	thousands of cubic metres		% change	thousands of cubic metres		% change
Crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons¹						
Production	8 747.5	9 104.3	4.1	24 922.3	26 340.5	5.7
Exports	4 072.0	4 573.9	12.3	11 940.7	13 520.6	13.2
Imports	3 154.1	4 088.3	29.6	8 503.6	10 112.8	18.9
Refinery receipts	7 646.5	8 898.7	16.4	21 746.4	23 960.6	10.2
	millions of cubic metres		% change	millions of cubic metres		% change
Natural gas²						
Marketable production	11 338.8	11 497.4	1.4	32 731.1	34 508.4	5.4
Exports	5 564.5	5 946.5	6.9	16 125.5	17 582.8	9.0
Canadian sales ³	6 573.5	6 361.5	-3.2	20 943.2	21 863.9	4.4

¹ Disposition may differ from production due to inventory change, industry own-use, etc.² Disposition may differ from production due to inventory change, usage as pipeline fuel, pipeline losses, line-pack fluctuations, etc.³ Includes direct sales.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Crushing statistics

April 1994

Oilseed processors crushed 192 thousand tonnes of canola in April 1994, a 1% increase from March 1994 and a 21% increase from April 1993 (159 thousand tonnes). Canola crushings for the current crop year (from August 1, 1993 to July 31, 1994) continued at a record 1.7 million tonnes.

Canola oil output totalled 80 thousand tonnes in April 1994, while canola meal production totalled 118 thousand tonnes. Oil stocks rose to 29 thousand tonnes in April, from 26 thousand tonnes in March 1994. Canola meal stocks totalled 39 thousand tonnes in April.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 5687.

The April 1994 issue of *Cereals and oilseeds review* (22-007, \$15/\$144) will be released in June. See "How to order publications".

For further information on this release, contact Alain Y. Bertrand (613-951-3859) or Karen Gray (204-983-2856), Grain Marketing Unit, Agriculture Division. ■

Steel primary forms

Week ending May 28, 1994 (preliminary)

Steel primary forms production for the week ending May 28, 1994 totalled 271 140 tonnes, down 0.1% from the week-earlier 271 299^r (revised) tonnes but up 6.5% from the year-earlier 254 589 tonnes.

The cumulative total at the end of the week was 5 570 325 tonnes, a 4.9% decrease from 5 859 393 tonnes for the same period in 1993.

For further information on this release, contact Greg Milsom (613-951-9827), Industry Division. ■

Specified domestic electrical appliances

April 1994

Electrical appliance manufacturers shipped 29,436 kitchen appliances in April 1994.

For January to April 1994, year-to-date shipments of kitchen appliances amounted to 144,657 units.

The April 1994 issue of *Specified domestic electrical appliances* (43-003, \$6/\$60) will be available later.

For further information on this release, contact Laurie Vincent (613-951-3523), Industry Division. ■

Cement

April 1994

Manufacturers shipped 714 090 tonnes of cement in April 1994, up 8.0% from 661 456^r (revised) tonnes in April 1993 and up 26.1% from 566 317 tonnes in March 1994.

For January to April 1994, shipments totalled 1 868 063 tonnes, up 8.9% from 1 715 732^r tonnes during the same period in 1993.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 92 and 122 (series 35).

The April 1994 issue of *Cement* (44-001, \$6/\$60) will be available later.

For further information on this release, contact Roland Joubert (613-951-3527), Industry Division. ■

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Crude petroleum and natural gas production, February 1994.

Catalogue number 26-006

(Canada: \$11/\$110; United States: US\$13/US\$130; other countries: US\$15/US\$150).

Rigid insulating board, April 1994.

Catalogue number 36-002

(Canada: \$6/\$60; United States: US\$8/US\$72; other countries: US\$9/US\$84).

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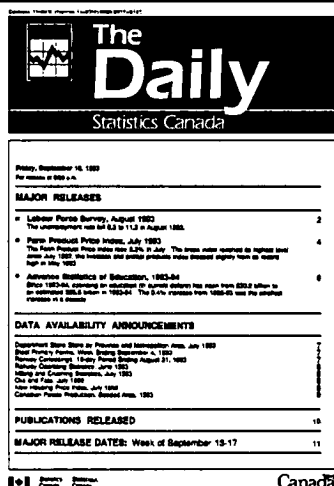
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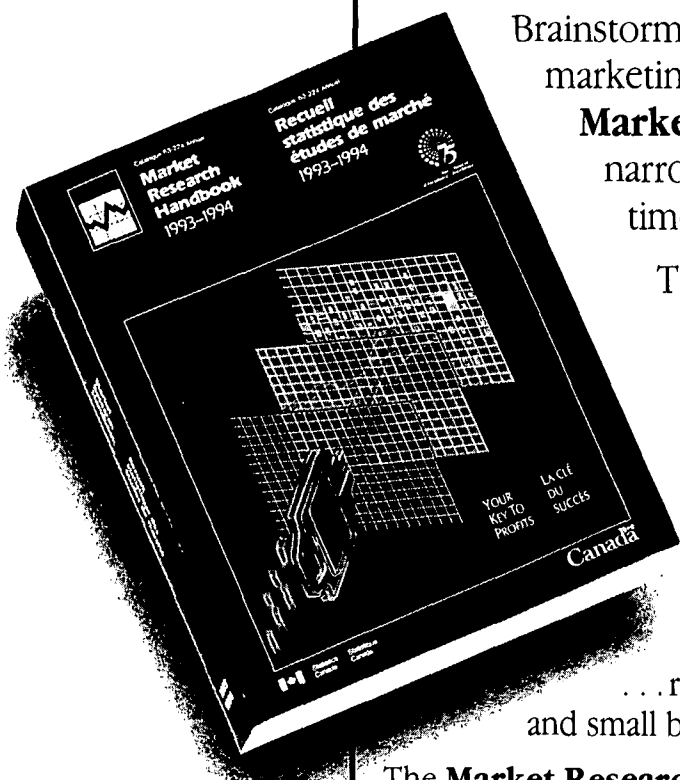
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