

The Daily

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MAJOR RELEASE

AUG 22 1994

• Wholesale trade, June 1994

Gains were widespread as wholesalers registered higher sales for the fifth consecutive month. Seven of nine commodity groups advanced with suppliers of agricultural and industrial chemicals, books, newspaper and other products showing the strongest increase. Total sales were \$19.2 billion, up 1.4% from May.

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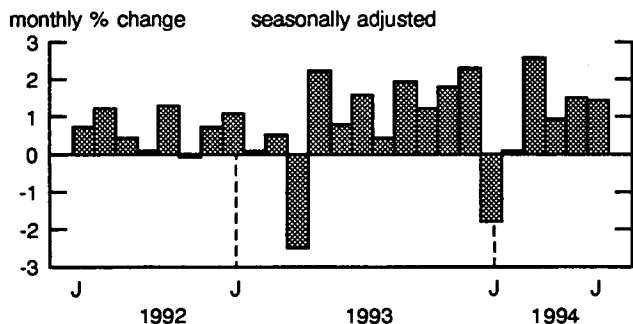
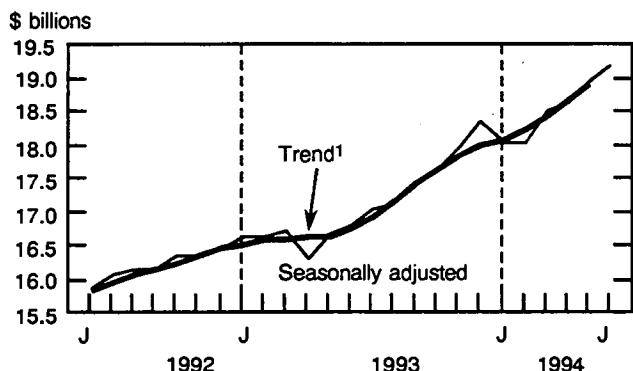
MAJOR RELEASE

Wholesale trade

June 1994 (preliminary)

Gains were widespread as wholesalers registered higher sales for the fifth consecutive month. Seven of nine commodity groups advanced, with suppliers of agricultural and industrial chemicals, books, newspaper and other products showing the strongest increase. As a result, total sales were \$19.2 billion, up 1.4% from May.

Wholesale merchants' sales



¹ The short-term trend represents a weighted average of data.

Non-durable groups posted higher sales

With a 3.8% sales increase, dealers of agricultural and industrial chemicals, books, newspaper and other

products (collectively referred to as wholesalers of "other products") accounted for nearly 40% of the gain in June. For the first six months of 1994, sales of other products have risen by about 14% compared to 5% in 1993. About one quarter of this group is supplied by imported products and about 15% of sales are exported.

Merchants of food, beverage, drug and tobacco products posted a 1.3% increase in June to maintain two months of growth. Their rise in sales accounted for about 22% of June's total increase.

Sales by distributors of metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment continued to expand in June, up \$34 million (+2.3%). Apart from a small decline in October 1993 (-0.7%), sales for this group have been increasing steadily since June 1993. The June increase also marks the fifth consecutive month for which sales have been very strong.

Sales by suppliers of household goods (+4.2%) also advanced. After slipping 0.2% in May, sales of lumber and building materials advanced 0.5% in June. Contributing to part of the growth in these three groups was the introduction of various assistance programs to encourage residential renovation and repair.

Automotive, parts and accessories wholesale dealers also recorded higher sales (+0.7%) in June. Since November 1993, this group has experienced sustained increases.

Equipment dealers register lower sales

Sales of other machinery, equipment and supplies eased down 0.3% in June after average monthly increases of 2.0% since January 1994. A decrease in sales of farm machinery (-0.2%) also helped dampen overall growth.

Most regions show growth

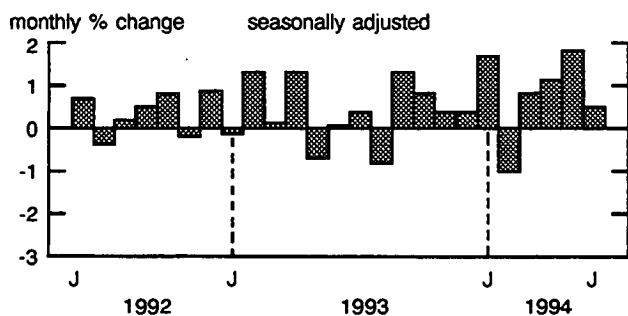
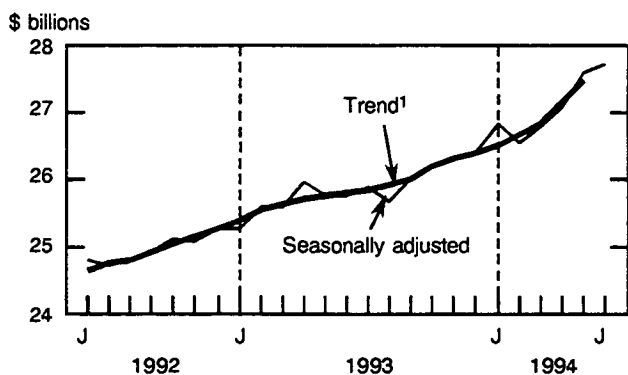
In June, all regions except Prince Edward Island (-1.7%) posted higher sales. Dealers in Ontario (accounting for about 42% of all sales) recorded their fifth consecutive monthly increase (+1.2%). For the sixth month in a row, sales in British Columbia advanced, rising by \$75 million (+2.7%).

Inventory levels rise

Inventory levels rose moderately in June (+0.5% to \$27.7 billion). The buildup in stocks was most notable by wholesalers of food, beverage, drug and tobacco products. A reduction in inventory of lumber and building materials (-2.3%) helped moderate the rise in inventories for June.

The inventories to sales ratio at the end of June decreased to 1.44:1 from 1.46:1 at the end of May.

Wholesale merchants' inventories



¹ The short-term trend represents a weighted average of data.

Unadjusted data

In June, total sales stood 15.2% higher than a year earlier. Leading the growth were sales of other machinery, equipment and supplies (+19.6%) and other products (agricultural and industrial chemicals, books, newspaper and other products) up 23.4%. These two groupings together account for approximately 40% of all sales (unadjusted). Inventory levels stood 8.0% above those in June 1993.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 59, 61, 648 and 649.

The June 1994 issue of *Wholesale trade* (63-008, \$16/\$160) will be available the second week of September. See "How to order publications".

For further information, contact Catherine Mamay (613-951-9683) or Gilles Berniquez (613-951-3540), Industry Division. □

Wholesale merchants' sales

Trade group	June 1993	May 1994 ^r	June 1994 ^P	June 1993 to June 1994	June 1993	March 1994 ^r	April 1994 ^r	May 1994 ^r	June 1994 ^P	May 1994 to June 1994	June 1993 to June 1994
	\$ millions		% change		\$ millions		% change				
	unadjusted				seasonally adjusted						
Canada											
Food, beverage, drug and tobacco products	4,705	4,700	4,891	3.9	4,481	4,624	4,544	4,570	4,631	1.3	3.3
Apparel and dry goods	352	380	410	16.3	438	419	456	473	498	5.3	13.7
Household goods	532	556	587	10.3	591	588	599	610	635	4.2	7.5
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	1,993	2,332	2,339	17.4	1,835	2,085	2,113	2,136	2,151	0.7	17.2
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	1,282	1,523	1,626	26.8	1,174	1,366	1,392	1,441	1,475	2.3	25.6
Lumber and building materials	1,894	2,049	2,127	12.3	1,532	1,673	1,715	1,711	1,719	0.5	12.2
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	462	508	521	12.8	365	421	410	412	411	-0.2	12.7
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	4,038	4,337	4,829	19.6	3,678	4,354	4,364	4,469	4,456	-0.3	21.2
Other products	2,944	3,608	3,633	23.4	2,661	2,943	3,046	3,100	3,216	3.8	20.9
Total, all trades	18,203	19,993	20,962	15.2	16,755	18,473	18,639	18,921	19,192	1.4	14.5
Provinces and territories											
Newfoundland	180	186	199	10.5	171	187	186	187	188	0.6	10.2
Prince Edward Island	47	53	56	20.4	41	46	47	46	46	-1.7	11.5
Nova Scotia	424	445	469	10.6	366	410	400	400	404	1.0	10.4
New Brunswick	254	272	299	17.6	234	247	258	259	269	3.9	15.0
Quebec	4,272	4,662	4,735	10.8	3,998	4,253	4,295	4,388	4,404	0.4	10.2
Ontario	7,491	8,209	8,661	15.6	6,945	7,653	7,733	7,898	7,990	1.2	15.1
Manitoba	683	714	787	15.2	585	629	620	612	637	4.1	9.0
Saskatchewan	606	668	740	22.1	519	592	596	582	616	5.8	18.6
Alberta	1,753	1,941	1,998	14.0	1,546	1,791	1,786	1,792	1,804	0.7	16.7
British Columbia	2,469	2,825	2,994	21.3	2,330	2,644	2,697	2,737	2,812	2.7	20.7
Yukon and Northwest Territories	23	19	23	-0.4	21	21	20	20	21	7.0	-2.5

Wholesale merchants' inventories

Trade group	June 1993	May 1994 ^r	June 1994 ^P	June 1993 to June 1994	June 1993	March 1994 ^r	April 1994 ^r	May 1994 ^r	June 1994 ^P	May 1994 to June 1994	June 1993 to June 1994	
	\$ millions			% change	\$ millions				% change			
	unadjusted				seasonally adjusted							
Food, beverage, drug and tobacco products	3,324	3,438	3,521	5.9	3,299	3,344	3,406	3,398	3,473	2.2	5.3	
Apparel and dry goods	1,088	1,096	1,124	3.2	1,004	1,046	1,057	1,071	1,050	-2.0	4.6	
Household goods	1,301	1,249	1,297	-0.4	1,301	1,271	1,263	1,243	1,273	2.4	-2.2	
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	3,736	3,740	3,632	-2.8	3,723	3,518	3,589	3,567	3,609	1.2	-3.1	
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	2,185	2,589	2,528	15.7	2,139	2,534	2,521	2,493	2,507	0.6	17.2	
Lumber and building materials	2,746	3,134	2,942	7.1	2,622	2,838	2,821	2,886	2,818	-2.3	7.5	
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	1,263	1,471	1,526	20.8	1,234	1,314	1,360	1,396	1,455	4.2	17.8	
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	7,147	7,844	7,805	9.2	7,076	7,338	7,314	7,670	7,684	0.2	8.6	
Other products	3,268	3,945	3,760	15.0	3,346	3,575	3,752	3,859	3,859	-	15.3	
Total, all trades	26,058	28,506	28,134	8.0	25,745	26,778	27,084	27,584	27,728	0.5	7.7	

^r Revised figure.

^P Preliminary figure.

-- Amount too small to be expressed.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Construction type plywood

June 1994

In June, production of construction type plywood totalled 164 187 cubic metres, a 4.1% increase from 157 722 cubic metres in June 1993.

From January to June 1994, production totalled 940 269 cubic metres, an increase of 2.5% from 917 113 cubic metres in the same period of 1993.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 122 (level 1).

The June 1994 issue of *Construction type plywood* (35-001, \$6/\$60) will be available at a later date. See "How to order publications".

For further information, contact Ted Brown (604-666-3694), Pacific Region, Statistics Canada, Sinclair Centre, 757 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6C 3C9. ■

Annual estimates of employment, earnings and hours

1983-93

Annual estimates of employment, earnings and hours, 1983-93 is a reference publication with 11 years of detailed annual average data.

This reference tool includes a feature article "1993 year-end review" which shows how employment grew in small businesses while total employment was virtually at a standstill.

The tables present the total number of employees, average weekly and hourly earnings, average number of hours in a work week and payrolls. Data are available at provincial, territorial and national levels and are classified for over 200 industry groups using the 1980 SIC.

Annual estimates of employment, earnings and hours, 1983-93 (\$65 + 7% GST in Canada) is now available from Labour Division.

For further information, contact Sylvie Picard (613-951-4090, fax 613-951-4087), Labour Division. ■

The Daily, August 22, 1994

PUBLICATION RELEASED

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

The paper used in this publication meets the minimum requirements of American National Standard for Information Sciences - Permanence of Paper for Printed Library Materials, ANSI Z39.48 - 1984.



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Simplify your data search with *Statistics Canada catalogue, 1994* (11-204E, \$15; United States: US\$18; other countries: US\$21). Its keyword index will guide you to statistics on Canada's social and economic activity.

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The Daily

Statistics Canada

Friday, September 14, 1990

For release at 10:00 a.m.

MAJOR RELEASES

- **Labour Force Survey, August 1990**
The unemployment rate for SA is 13.5 in August 1990. 2
- **Purchasing Power Index, July 1990**
The Retail Prices Index rose less than 0.2% in July. The index also continued to register more than one year high. 1992 will be the highest and lowest periods since August 1987 for more than one year high. 2
- **Demographic Statistics of Education, 1980-84**
Between 1980 and 1984, an average of 100,000 students (about 10% of the total) were enrolled in post-secondary education. 6

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Department Store Sales by Province and Metropolitan Area, July 1989
Retail Prices Index, Prices During September 1989
Consumer Credit, 12-Month Period Ending April 1990
Retail Sales, Consumer Expenditure, July 1989
Sales Tax, July 1989
Consumer Price Index, July 1989
Consumer Prices (Wholesale Prices), July 1989

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