

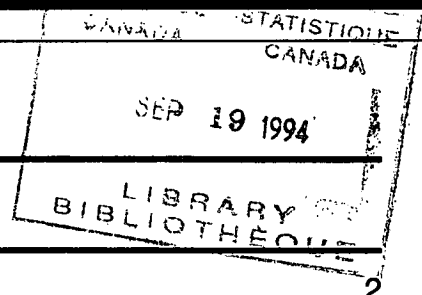


The Daily

Statistics Canada

Monday, September 19, 1994

For release at 8:30 a.m.



MAJOR RELEASE

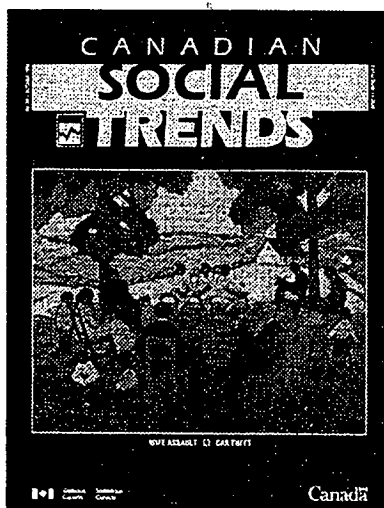
• Monthly survey of manufacturing, July 1994

Bolstered by the buoyant level of new orders, manufacturers increased shipments 1.1% to \$29.1 billion in July, the fifth increase in a row.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sales of natural gas, July 1994	5
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Canadian social trends Autumn 1994

The autumn 1994 issue of *Canadian social trends*, features two articles on violence against women ("Wife assault in Canada" and "Canada's shelters for abused women"). The new issue also includes two articles related to motor vehicles ("Behind the wheel: Canadians and their vehicles" and "Motor vehicle crime"), as well as an article on the incidence and costs of fires in Canada ("Fire!").

Each quarter, *Canadian social trends* integrates data from various sources to examine important social trends and issues. It also features the latest social indicators, as well as information about Statistics Canada's products and services.

The autumn 1994 issue of *Canadian social trends* (11-008E, \$8.50/\$34) is now available. See "How to order publications."

For further information, contact Cynthia Silver (613-951-2556), Housing Family and Social Statistics Division.



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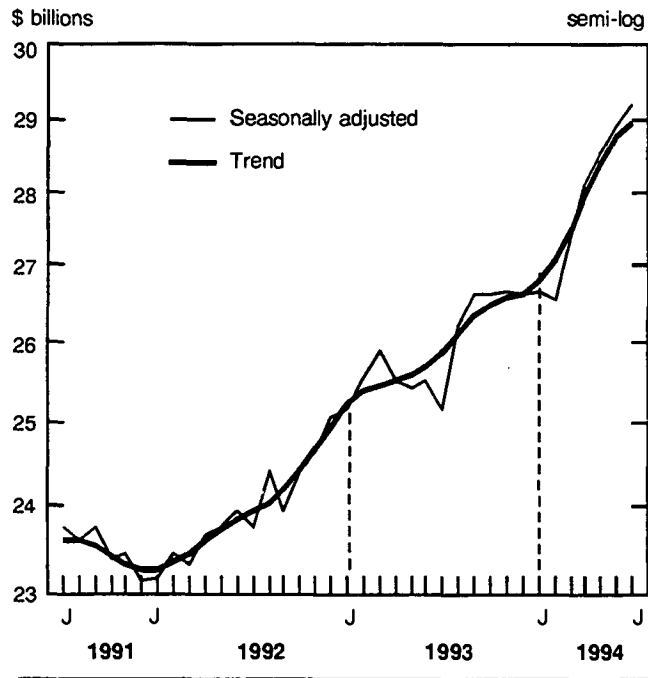
Monthly survey of manufacturing

July 1994

The seasonally adjusted value of shipments climbed 1.1% to \$29.1 billion as manufacturers in 14 of the 22 major groups (accounting for 61% of shipments) continued to speed up production to meet demand. The July increase in these 14 major groups more than offset drops of 3.1% in the transportation industry and 2.3% in the electrical and electronics industry. Though shipments have increased for five consecutive months, the rate of growth has been slowing in 21 of the 22 major groups.

Burgeoning demand resulted in a July jump of 2.6% in new orders and 1.5% in the backlog of unfilled orders, which will contribute to future shipments unless orders are cancelled.

Shipments increasing since early 1992



Shipments mount

Demand continued to be widespread. Increased shipments, in dollar terms, were realized by manufacturers in the paper and allied products

industry (+6.9%) and the refined petroleum and coal industry (+8.9%). These increases partially reflected a monthly rise in prices of 1.0% and 1.4% respectively, as reported in the July 1994 industrial product price index. Increased costs for raw materials paid by manufacturers now appear to be working their way through the system. The food industry (+2.9%) and the wood industry (+3.3%) were also strong performers in July.

The drop of 3.1% in the transportation industry in July was attributable to longer than normal plant shutdowns for maintenance and model year changeovers in the automotive sector.

Indications are that the July drop was temporary. The August 3, 1994 release of the Business conditions survey indicated that the majority of auto manufacturers were optimistic about production prospects for the third quarter. Also, a healthy rebound in U.S. auto sales was reported in August, especially of models manufactured in Canada. In addition, unfilled orders in the auto sector jumped 3.3% in July. Consequently, stronger shipments would appear to be expected in the coming months.

The value of shipments for the first seven months of 1994 was \$194.8 billion, 9.7% higher than the corresponding period in 1993.

Unfilled orders growing as new orders surge

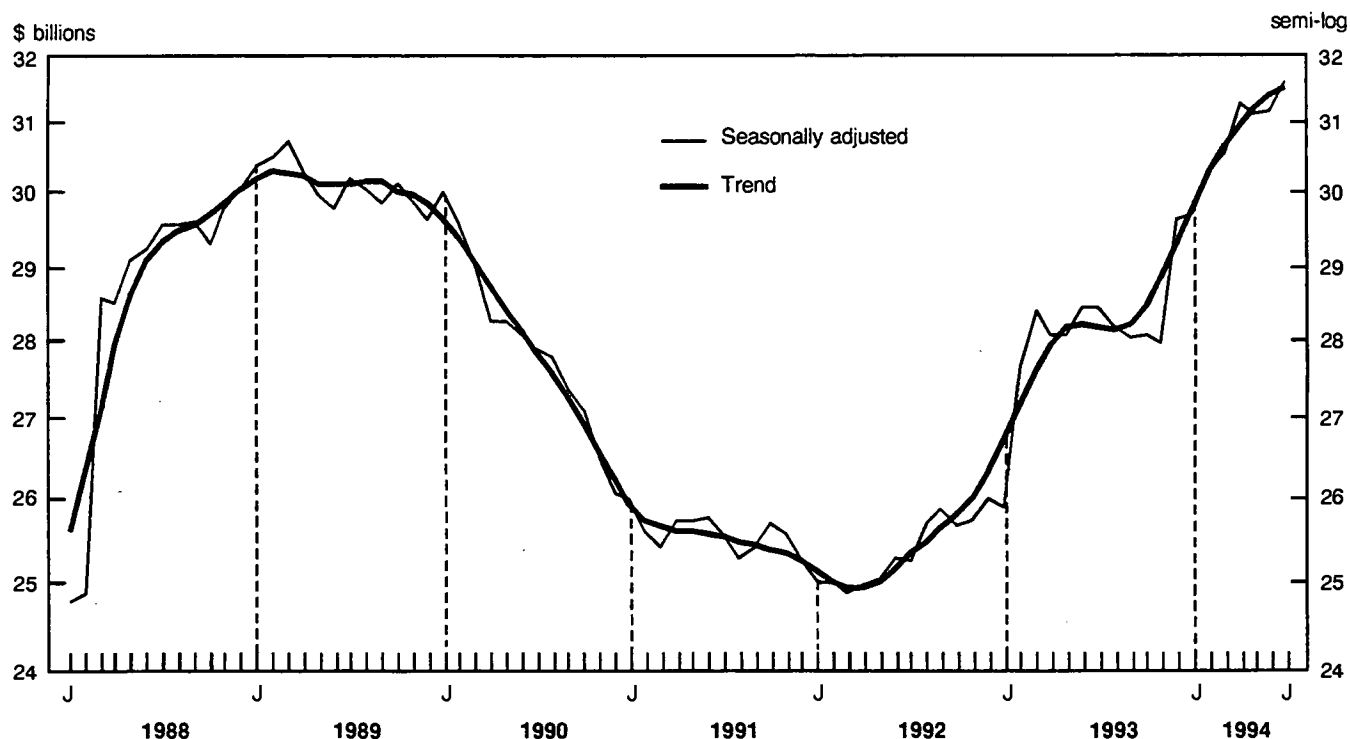
The backlog of unfilled orders grew 1.5% in July, to \$31.6 billion. In dollar terms, the largest increases were in the transportation industry (+1.5%) and the electrical and electronics industry (+3.9%).

The unfilled orders backlog now stands about 3% higher than its pre-recession peak of \$30.7 billion (March 1989). The graph on page 3 shows the rapid increase in the backlog in 1988, reflecting the second phase of the frigate contract. Manufacturers then experienced a severe downturn as the backlog began a 36-month decline. Since the trough in March 1992, the backlog has swelled more than \$6.5 billion, reflecting strong demand in most industries.

Unfilled orders are a stock of orders which will contribute to future shipments, assuming that orders are not cancelled.

New orders are defined as the sum of shipments for the current month (i.e., orders received this month and shipped within the same month) plus the change in unfilled orders.

Manufacturers' backlog of unfilled orders stands 3% higher than its pre-recession peak



New orders jumped 2.6% to \$29.6 billion in July. In dollar terms, this was particularly evident in the electrical and electronics industry (+12.0%) and the fabricated metal products industry (+6.0%).

Inventory level ebbs

The value of inventories eased slightly in July (-0.3%) largely due to declines in food (-3.0%), machinery (-3.7%) and the paper and allied products industry (-1.9%). The inventory to shipments ratio continued to fall, at 1.30 in July, as the increases in shipments continued to outpace the growth in inventories.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 9550-9580.


The July 1994 issue of *Monthly survey of manufacturing* (31-001, \$19/\$190) will be available shortly.

Data for shipments by province in greater detail than normally published may be available on request. For further information, contact Danielle Gendron, Information and Classification Section (613-951-9497), or the Monthly Survey of Manufacturing Section, (613-951-9832), Industry Division. □

Shipments, inventories and orders in all manufacturing industries

Period	Shipments		Inventories		Unfilled orders		New orders		Inven- tories to shipments ratio
	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	\$ millions	% change	
seasonally adjusted									
July 1993	25,077	-1.4	35,695	0.7	28,434	0.1	25,100	-2.6	1.42
August 1993	26,116	4.1	35,838	0.4	28,159	-1.0	25,841	3.0	1.37
September 1993	26,513	1.5	35,765	-0.2	28,050	-0.4	26,404	2.2	1.35
October 1993	26,514	0.0	35,872	0.3	28,069	0.1	26,532	0.5	1.35
November 1993	26,569	0.2	36,121	0.7	27,981	-0.3	26,481	-0.2	1.36
December 1993	26,510	-0.2	36,247	0.3	29,646	6.0	28,175	6.4	1.37
January 1994	26,582	0.3	36,523	0.8	29,745	0.3	26,681	-5.3	1.37
February 1994	26,457	-0.5	36,866	0.9	30,283	1.8	26,995	1.2	1.39
March 1994	27,365	3.4	37,246	1.0	30,535	0.8	27,617	2.3	1.36
April 1994	27,997	2.3	37,418	0.5	31,282	2.4	28,744	4.1	1.34
May 1994	28,458	1.6	37,616	0.5	31,111	-0.5	28,287	-1.6	1.32
June 1994	28,811	1.2	37,896	0.7	31,159	0.2	28,859	2.0	1.32
July 1994	29,140	1.1	37,772	-0.3	31,621	1.5	29,602	2.6	1.30

■



The Daily
Statistics Canada

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Per issue: \$ 0.50 a.u.

MAJOR RELEASES

- Labour Force Survey, August 1993
The unemployment rate was 12.3% in August 1993.
- Farm Product Price Index, July 1993
The Farm Product Price Index rose 0.2% in July. The index index remained its highest level since July 1992; the index and other products index posted slightly firm for future high in July 1993.
- Admission Statistics of Education, 1992-93
Since 1992-93, growing in relation to other sectors has risen from 55.5% when it was 55.5% in 1992-93. The 1993-94, however, from 1992-93 was the greatest increase in a decade.

DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cheney's State Area in Housing and Transportation, July 1993
Steel Product Prices, Index, Starting September 4, 1993
Survey of Consumer Prices, Starting August 21, 1993
Survey of Consumer Prices, July 1993
July and Aug. 1993
July and Aug. 1993
July and Aug. 1993
July and Aug. 1993

PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

MAJOR RELEASE DATES: Week of September 13-17

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DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sales of natural gas

July 1994 (preliminary)

Natural gas sales in Canada totalled 3 130 million cubic metres in July, down 0.2% from July 1993. The decline was due to lower demand for natural gas by the residential and commercial sectors. Sales to the industrial sector (including direct) rose 1.5% from July 1993, primarily due to increased use of natural gas in the generation of electricity.

Year-to-date sales were up 2.7% from the same period in 1993. Sales to the industrial sector (including direct) were down 0.7% from 1993, while residential sales increased 8.8%.

Sales of natural gas

	July 1994 ^P	July 1993 to July 1994
	thousands of cubic metres	% change
Total	3 130 340	-0.2
Residential	377 189	-6.1
Commercial	304 234	-5.2
Industrial	1 853 521	1.5
Direct	595 396	
	January to July 1994 ^P	Jan.-July 1993 to Jan.-July 1994
	thousands of cubic metres	% change
Total	37 289 050	2.7
Residential	10 337 000	8.8
Commercial	7 691 064	4.0
Industrial	14 213 567	-0.7
Direct	5 047 419	

^P Preliminary figures.

Available on CANSIM: matrices 1052-1055.

The July 1994 issue of *Gas utilities* (55-002, \$14/\$140) will be available the third week of October. See "How to order publications".

For further information, contact Gary Smalldridge (613-951-3567), Energy Section, Industry Division. ■

Department store sales advance release August 1994

In August, department store sales including concessions were \$1,063.3 million, up 9.2% from August 1993. Sales for the major department stores were \$529.2 million (+1.2%), while sales for the junior category were \$534.1 million (+18.4%).

Note: This advance release is a very preliminary indicator of data that will be published in the monthly department store sales survey.

For further information, contact Tom Newton (613-951-3552), Retail Trade Section, Industry Division. ■



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PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

Canadian social trends, autumn 1994.

Catalogue number 11-008E

(Canada: \$8.50/\$34; United States: US\$10/US\$40;
other countries: US\$12/US\$48).

Railway operating statistics, February 1994.

Catalogue number 52-003

(Canada: \$12/\$120; United States: US\$15/US\$144;
other countries: US\$17/US\$168).

Exports by commodity, June 1994.

Catalogue number 65-004

(Canada: \$60/\$600; United States: US\$72/US\$720;
other countries: US\$84/US\$840).

Imports by commodity, June 1994.

Catalogue number 65-007

(Canada: \$60/\$600; United States: US\$72/US\$720;
other countries: US\$84/US\$840).

Residential care facilities—mental, 1991-92.

Catalogue number 83-238

(Canada: \$15; United States: US\$18; other countries:
US\$21).

List of residential care facilities, 1993.

Catalogue number 83-240

(Canada: \$20; United States: US\$24; other countries:
US\$28).

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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).
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