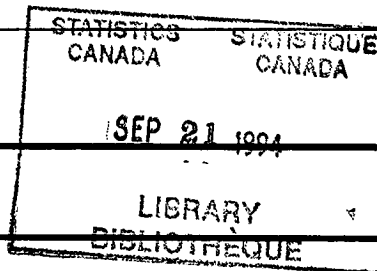


# The Daily

Statistics Canada

Wednesday, September 21, 1994

For release at 8:30 a.m.



## MAJOR RELEASE

### ● Wholesale trade, July 1994

Sales by wholesalers advanced again in July but at a somewhat reduced rate. The food and production equipment sectors experienced the largest increases.

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## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Electric lamps, August 1994

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Corrugated boxes and wrappers, August 1994

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(continued on page 2)



**Databases for Environmental Analysis:**  
Provincial and Territorial Governments



Canada  
Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment  
1994

### Databases for environmental analysis: provincial and territorial governments

*Databases for environmental analysis: provincial and territorial governments*, a cooperative effort between Statistics Canada and The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, is now available.

This publication presents an inventory of provincial and territorial government databases of potential use in environmental reporting. The inventory is a meta-database, that is, a database of databases, and forms one of the components of Statistics Canada's Environmental Information System. It contains detailed descriptions of 833 environmental databases held by provincial and territorial government departments. An MS-DOS diskette version of the inventory is included with each publication.

*Databases for environmental analysis: provincial and territorial governments* (11-529E, \$75) is now available. See "How to order publications".

For further information, contact the client services representative (613-951-3640), National Accounts and Environment Division.



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**PUBLICATIONS RELEASED**

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The 1994 edition of *E-STAT* is now available. For further information, contact the Statistics Canada Regional Reference Centre nearest you.

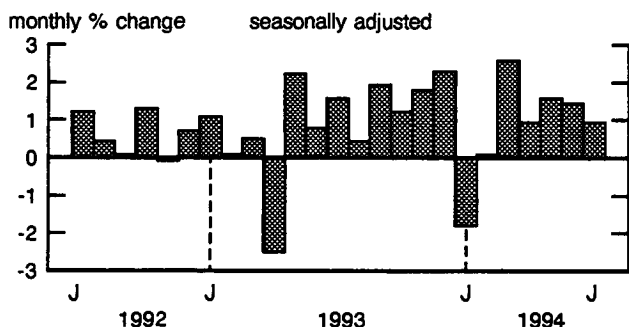
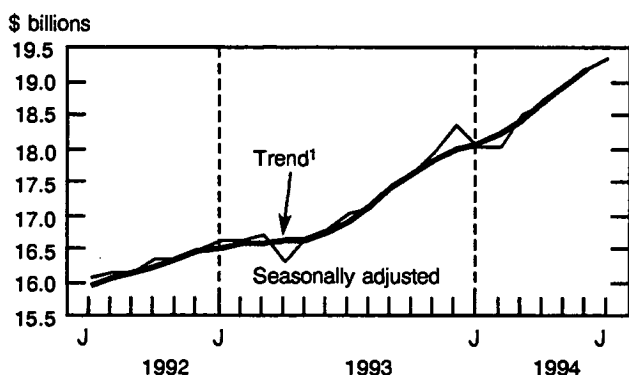
## MAJOR RELEASE

### Wholesale trade

July 1994 (preliminary)

Sales by wholesalers advanced again in July but at a somewhat reduced rate. The food and production equipment sectors experienced the largest sales increases.

#### Wholesale merchants' sales



<sup>1</sup> The short-term trend represents a weighted average of data.

#### Six of nine commodity groups advance

Wholesale merchants' sales rose 0.9% to \$19.4 billion in July as six of the nine components accounting for 78% of total sales were up. In June, eight of the nine components recorded higher sales.

Sales of food, beverage, drug and tobacco products recorded the largest value increase, up 1.8% to \$4.7 billion after a 1.5% gain in June. It was

the strongest increase for this group since the last decline recorded in April.

Partly because of business investment, wholesalers of other machinery and equipment registered the second largest value increase in July, up 1.6% to \$4.5 billion. Despite a slowdown in June, these merchants remain active as cumulative seven-month sales are 20.3% above 1993. Typical goods supplied by this sector include industrial machinery, office machines, computers and related equipment. Major clients are mostly businesses and institutional users.

#### Three areas limit overall growth

Three commodity groups dampened the overall increase in July namely, other products (including suppliers of agricultural and industrial chemicals, books, newspaper), apparel and dry goods and household goods. With a drop of 2.1%—the first since January 1994—distributors of other products reported the largest decline in sales. The apparel and household goods sectors are particularly vulnerable to household spending which continues to fluctuate.

#### Growth observed across most of Canada

Eight of the 11 regions accounting for about 92% of all sales increased in July. The rise in sales was noted primarily in Ontario, up 1.4%, bringing the gain since the beginning of the year to 12.5% above 1993 levels. Sales were also higher in Alberta (+1.7%) and in British Columbia (+1.1%). In Quebec, sales rose 0.6% following a 0.2% decrease in June.

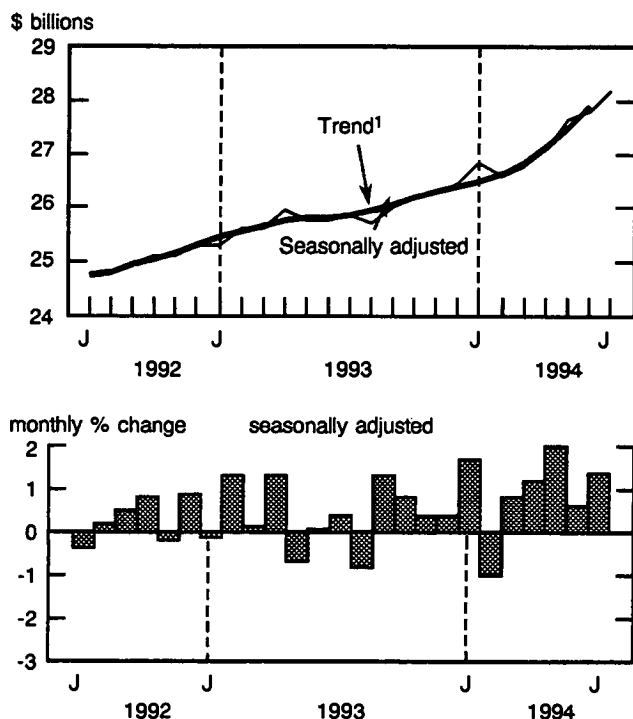
Three regions accounting for approximately 8% of total sales (New Brunswick, Manitoba and Saskatchewan) recorded a decline in sales for July. Each experienced strong growth the previous month.

#### Inventory levels rise

Inventory levels grew 1.4% in July to \$28.2 billion. The buildup in stocks was in lumber and building materials, up 3.8% or \$107 million and in other machinery and equipment, up 1.4% or \$104 million. The other products component experienced the only reduction in July (-0.8%).

The inventories to sales ratio at the end of July increased slightly to 1.46:1, from 1.45:1 at the end of June.

## Wholesale merchants' inventories



<sup>1</sup> The short-term trend represents a weighted average of data.

### Note to users

The monthly survey tracks, on a timely basis, broad movements in sales and inventory levels for nine wholesaler groups. The most recent results of the annual wholesale trade survey (1992) will be released in the daily on September 23. At that time detail on customer and commodity mix along with revenue and expense data will be available for up to 76 specialized wholesalers.

### Unadjusted data confirms growth

In July, total sales stood 12.4% higher than a year earlier. Wholesale dealers of metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment (+25.2%) and distributors of other machinery (+18.9%) registered the largest increases. Combined, these two sectors account for approximately 30% of all sales. Household goods was the only sector in which sales were lower than year-earlier levels, slipping to \$545 million (-0.8%). Total inventory levels stood 9.5% above July 1993.

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

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

For further information, contact Catherine Mamay (613-951-9683) or Gilles Simard (613-951-3541), Industry Division. □

# Wholesale merchants' sales and inventories

	July 1993	April 1994 <sup>r</sup>	May 1994 <sup>r</sup>	June 1994 <sup>r</sup>	July 1994 <sup>p</sup>	June 1994 <sup>p</sup> to July 1994 <sup>p</sup>	July 1993 to July 1994 <sup>p</sup>
seasonally adjusted							
	\$ millions				% change		
<b>Wholesale merchants' sales</b>							
<b>Trade group</b>							
Food, beverage, drug and tobacco products	4,462	4,550	4,584	4,650	4,736	1.8	6.1
Apparel and dry goods	435	457	473	502	497	-1.0	14.2
Household goods	599	595	604	625	598	-4.4	-0.2
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	1,874	2,114	2,138	2,148	2,176	1.3	16.1
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	1,204	1,394	1,443	1,462	1,498	2.4	24.3
Lumber and building materials	1,570	1,718	1,716	1,728	1,748	1.2	11.3
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	372	412	416	417	441	5.8	18.5
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,761	4,367	4,477	4,465	4,536	1.6	20.6
Other products	2,739	3,039	3,088	3,196	3,128	-2.1	14.2
<b>Total, all trades</b>	<b>17,018</b>	<b>18,645</b>	<b>18,937</b>	<b>19,193</b>	<b>19,357</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>13.7</b>
<b>Provinces and territories</b>							
Newfoundland	176	187	189	190	197	3.8	11.8
Prince Edward Island	39	48	47	46	48	3.5	22.7
Nova Scotia	373	401	401	407	409	0.4	9.6
New Brunswick	237	257	258	277	261	-5.7	10.1
Quebec	4,088	4,293	4,386	4,379	4,406	0.6	7.8
Ontario	7,025	7,737	7,908	7,994	8,108	1.4	15.4
Manitoba	601	618	609	634	616	-2.9	2.5
Saskatchewan	519	593	578	605	586	-3.2	12.9
Alberta	1,573	1,789	1,797	1,810	1,842	1.7	17.1
British Columbia	2,366	2,702	2,745	2,828	2,860	1.1	20.9
Yukon and Northwest Territories	22	21	19	23	25	9.9	15.5
<b>Wholesale merchants' inventories</b>							
<b>Trade group</b>							
Food, beverage, drug and tobacco products	3,320	3,411	3,408	3,504	3,543	1.1	6.7
Apparel and dry goods	1,021	1,061	1,079	1,044	1,094	4.8	7.2
Household goods	1,375	1,264	1,245	1,269	1,277	0.6	-7.1
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	3,697	3,597	3,582	3,645	3,723	2.1	0.7
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	2,161	2,525	2,500	2,534	2,555	0.8	18.2
Lumber and building materials	2,590	2,834	2,891	2,836	2,943	3.8	13.7
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	1,245	1,362	1,400	1,464	1,491	1.9	19.7
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	7,091	7,318	7,678	7,677	7,781	1.4	9.7
Other products	3,346	3,735	3,864	3,831	3,800	-0.8	13.6
<b>Total, all trades</b>	<b>25,846</b>	<b>27,108</b>	<b>27,647</b>	<b>27,804</b>	<b>28,207</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>9.1</b>

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

**Wholesale merchants' sales and inventories**

	July 1993	June 1994 <sup>r</sup>	July 1994 <sup>p</sup>	July 1993 to July 1994 <sup>p</sup>
	unadjusted			
	\$ millions		% change	
<b>Wholesale merchants' sales</b>				
<b>Trade group</b>				
Food, beverage, drug and tobacco products	4,560	4,885	4,787	5.0
Apparel and dry goods	481	434	524	8.9
Household goods	550	581	545	-0.8
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	1,736	2,327	2,005	15.5
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	1,175	1,599	1,471	25.2
Lumber and building materials	1,790	2,134	1,964	9.8
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	390	521	458	17.2
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	3,513	4,827	4,175	18.9
Other products	2,558	3,624	2,906	13.6
<b>Total, all trades</b>	<b>16,751</b>	<b>20,914</b>	<b>18,836</b>	<b>12.4</b>
<b>Provinces and territories</b>				
Newfoundland	190	197	213	12.3
Prince Edward Island	44	57	55	25.2
Nova Scotia	411	473	450	9.3
New Brunswick	254	304	275	8.4
Quebec	3,975	4,690	4,236	6.6
Ontario	6,684	8,642	7,643	14.3
Manitoba	670	790	666	-0.6
Saskatchewan	563	729	610	8.3
Alberta	1,569	1,997	1,816	15.7
British Columbia	2,368	3,009	2,846	20.2
Yukon and Northwest Territories	24	25	28	15.7
<b>Wholesale merchants' inventories</b>				
<b>Trade group</b>				
Food, beverage, drug and tobacco products	3,367	3,546	3,622	7.6
Apparel and dry goods	1,121	1,113	1,202	7.2
Household goods	1,375	1,290	1,328	-3.4
Motor vehicles, parts and accessories	3,617	3,648	3,677	1.6
Metals, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies	2,205	2,554	2,575	16.8
Lumber and building materials	2,584	2,947	2,910	12.6
Farm machinery, equipment and supplies	1,273	1,529	1,564	22.9
Other machinery, equipment and supplies	7,295	7,754	8,027	10.0
Other products	3,253	3,748	3,677	13.0
<b>Total, all trades</b>	<b>26,090</b>	<b>28,129</b>	<b>28,582</b>	<b>9.5</b>

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary figures.

<sup>r</sup> Revised figures.

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## DATA AVAILABILITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### Electric lamps

August 1994

Light bulb and tube manufacturers sold 21,013,000 light bulbs and tubes in August 1994, an increase of 6.0% from 19,822,000 a year earlier.

Year-to-date sales at the end of August 1994 totalled 183,812,000 light bulbs and tubes, an increase of 11.8% from the 164,433,000 a year earlier.

The August 1994 issue of *Electric lamps* (43-009, \$6/\$60) will be available at a later date.

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

### Corrugated boxes and wrappers

August 1994

Canadian domestic shipments of corrugated boxes and wrappers totalled 216 956 thousand square metres in August 1994, an 18.7% increase from 182 808 thousand square metres a year earlier.

January to August 1994 domestic shipments totalled 1 579 191 thousand square metres, a 10.0% increase from 1 435 584 thousand square metres for the same period in 1993.

The August 1994 issue of *Corrugated boxes and wrappers* (36-004, \$6/\$60) will be available at a later date.

For further information, contact Sandra Bohatyretz (613-951-3516), Industry Division. ■

### Taxation statistics for enterprises

1992 (preliminary)

Preliminary 1992 data on provincial allocation of taxable income by industry are now available.

For further information, contact Paula Helmer (613-951-9852), Industrial Organization and Finance Division. ■

## PUBLICATIONS RELEASED

### Databases for environmental analysis: provincial and territorial governments.

Catalogue number 11-529E

(Canada: \$75; United States: US\$90;  
other countries: US\$105).

Oil pipeline transport, June 1994.

Catalogue number 55-001

(Canada: \$11/\$110; United States: US\$14/US\$132;  
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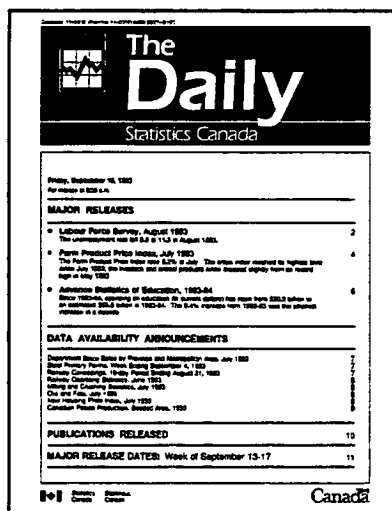
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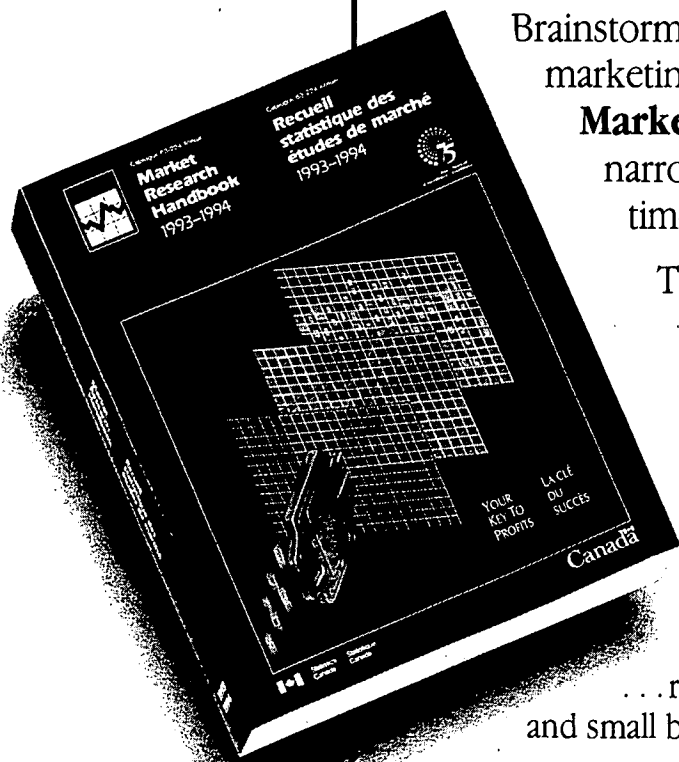
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